# \*TIMES



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SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29 1997

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THE SATURDAY TIMES - YOUR COMPLETE SEVEN-SECTION READING PACKETS THE SECTION READING PACKETS THE SECTION READING PACKETS THE PROPERTY OF THE SECTION READING PACKETS THE SECTION P

### Spencer plans to surround Diana's island grave with ring of steel

A SEVEN-FOOT high steel cordon is to be erected around the island where Diana, Princess of Wales, is buried before her ancestral home is opened to the public

Her brother, Earl Spencer, has asked his local authority for permission to build the steel and cast-iron fence decorated with thousands of heart-shaped motifs around the oval lake at Althorp.

This application is seen as the start of Lord Spencer's elaborate plans for his Northamptonshire estate to become one of Britain's biggest attractions. It opens on July 1 for eight weeks only.

Local council officials, who expect to override some protests about the plans from Lord Spencer's neighbours, predict that he will have to deal with "up to 3,000 visitors a day" in the 16th-century gardens. Estate staff believe the numbers will be far greater than that. "This is all so unique we simply don't know what to expect, one said.

What is certain is that Althorp, which the earl describes as a drain on his resources, can expect more visitors in a week than the 9,000 it usually welcomes

Lord Spencer has yet to decide how much to charge visitors. By the July opening it is hoped to have completed "an appropriate memorial" to the Princess and a museum - featuring family photographs, memorabilia and cine film - will be built in a stable block in the grounds.

A spokesman for the earl said "He has always said he does not want to make a profit from his sister's death but clearly there will have to be a cost to cover what will be extra staffing and arrangements for those wishing to visit."

The barrier, painted blue, will stand 15 to 20 feet from the water's edge, with one main entrance gate to limit the numbers

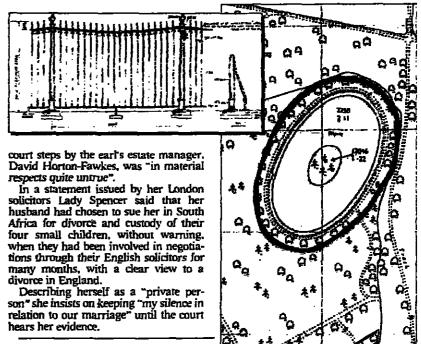
location of the grave has never been disclosed but Lord Spencer has said that it

cannot be seen from the edge of the lake. Security measures will be also improved to include remote-controlled gates at the front and rear entrances, although staff say that there have been no breaches since the Princess was buried there in

The earl's planning application to Daventry District Council comes as he continues to fight his wife in the Cape Town High Court over their divorce settlement. That hearing will resume on Monday unless rival lawyers manage to agree an out-of-court financial settlement over the weekend.

Yesterday, Countess Spencer hit back at claims from a friend of her husband that she had launched a "malicious" campaign against her husband in the hope of

She said the statement delivered on the



Spencer divorce, page 16-18 Weekend, page 2

# d l'est trial put Hunting rage for two yea foxes to be illegal

Princess: heart motifs on fence

By PRILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE end of foxhunting in Britain by 2000 was predicted by ministers. MPs and campaigners last night after the Commons gave a 260-vote majority to a backbench at-tempt to outlaw hunting with

J .......

4.7.25

and the second

1. THE RES

After the most passionate debate at Westminster since the general election in May, Michael Foster's Bill was carried on second reading by 411 votes to 151, one of the biggest ever votes in support of a private member's measure.

Within minutes of the result, Labour MPs received a message from Tony Blair that the leading campaigners inter-preted as the death-knell for hunting. The Prime Minister, who was visiting British troops in Bosnia, told Conservarive MPs not to irustrate the passage of a Bill for which there was clear support in the

country and the Commons. Then, in a remark that MPs WEATHER \_\_\_\_

CROSSWORD 32 COURT & SOCIAL.....24 LETTERS 23, 61 OBITUARIES ..... SIMON JENKINS \_\_\_\_\_22 THEATRES ... BUSINESS ......26-31, 50

WEEKEND MONEY51-64

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PROPERTY\_\_\_\_\_912





took as confirmation that if necessary the Government would eventually ensure that a ban was implemented before the next election, Mr Blair added: "We are keeping this matter open to review for the future."

Despite the huge majority. Mr Foster's Bill is not expected to become in the Government has decided against giving it the extra parliamentary time it would need to get through both Houses, fearing that its already crowded timetable would be disrupted. But Mr Blair's statement was seen as a clear hint of government involvement in future. A senior government source said: "Huming will be banned by

The Bill now goes into its committee stage in the Commons. It is likely to emerge from that, but almost certainly will be killed off when it returns to the floor of the House for its report stage.

However, the strength of support for the Bill means that that reprieve will be only temporary. Although ten Cab-inet ministers including Ms Blair were away from the Commons and did not vote, only two Labour MPs - Kate Hoey and Llin Golding - op-posed the Bill. Whips and business managers accept that there is an unstoppable momentum within the Labour Party for a change in the law that will have to be met.

allowing an amendment to a future government Bill or by backing another Private Member's Bill in the next session has yet to be decided. In the meantime, the Govemment's strategy, which came during the spetch of George Howarth, the Home Office minister, and in the responses of Mr Blair and

other ministers afterwards, is

to pin the blame on the Tories

Whether that is done by

for the expected failure of Mr Foster's Bills. For that reason there will be no on-the-record statements that the Government will push a Bill through in future; ministers believe that to do so would reduce the political gain they want to secure from claiming that the Conservatives are the reason for the failure of this one.

The hunting debate, pages 4-6 Leading article, page 23 | motor racing ....



### Blair hopes to save coal jobs

The Government is looking at detailed plans to save the coal industries and the controversy over pit closures and the loss

of thousands of jobs.
An initiative from No 10 looks at measures to ensure the industry's survival over the next five to seven years which may include altering the balance of use between gas and coal ....

### Islanders are ready to flee

An evacuation plan is being drawn up by a group of Pacific islands after research showing that global warming and rising sea levels will eventually make them uninhabitable.

The Marshall Islands are believed to be the first of a string of low-lying Pagae and Caribbean states to consider such drastic action .... Page 20

### Belgians to ban tobacco ads

The Belgian Parliament has voted to ban tobacco advertising from roadside billboards, newspapers, magazines, supermarkets and pubs.

British Government sources said that the Belgian development would have no impact on Tony Blair's decision to exempt Formula One ...Page 2

### Porn again pilgrims flock to the festival

By Michael Gove

THE biggest concentration of rubber outside Malaya was on ence organiser who graciously display at London's Olympia Exhibition Centre yesterday at Erotica, Britain's first commercial sex fair - a sort of Ideal Hormone Exhibition.

The attempt by the UK's porn, fetish and fantasy industry to go respectable is expected to attract more than 20,000 curious customers to the threeday festival. For £25 they can visit a selection of stalls from Karmafootra to Fantasy Liq-uid Latex and buy something for the weekend or the bestselling video House of

Whipcord. The exhibition is the brainchild of Brian Wiseman, a rag



Bigger and Better **SPORT** BUSINESS ence organiser who graciously acknowledges the help of the The best City pages and Metropolitan Police Vice

the exhibition after detecting a

market for "naughty but nice"

Not all the women present

were gracing book covers,

however: The event organisers

were at pains to emphasise

that the show was aimed at all

(not just both) sexes. One

female shopper. Jenny Ford from North London, had

made the trip to Olympia to

"stock up on erotic lingerie".

Ms Ford , "put me down as

29", and her boyfriend who preferred to remain

anonymousinvested in a

Squad in his introduction to the event. The constabulary had given the event their seal MONEY of approval and Hammersmith had allowed Olympia to Best savings advice and enjoy a sex establishment liunit trust prices Section 2 cence for the weekend. Mr Wiseman conceived of

For everyone on the move merchandise in "middle-sheli" men's magazines such as in Section 2 FHM and Maxim. The exhibition, a stallholder WEEKEND explained, was aimed more at Including Travel the "leather-jacketed lad than the dirty raincoat brigade".

THE SATURDAY

The week's TV and radio

handsome cat-o-nine tails for only £20. "It's a bit of fun isn't EULINDEX it?" giggled Ms Ford. Her boyfriend kept quiet. Back Page I made my excuses and left.

### Tax-free savings at the checkout

By Nicholas Wood and Anne Ashworth

SUPERMARKETS will play a key role in a savings revolution to be unveiled by Gordon Brown next week.

In a move aimed at encouraging lower-income people to build up a nest-egg, the Chancellor's scheme will also allow small savers to earn interest free of tax. The new-look "individual savings accounts (Isas) will be sold and serviced at supermarket checkouts.

Ministers expect that shoppers paying their bills will be asked if they want to put £20 in their Isa, much as they are now asked if they want to draw cash.

Such big retail chains as Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury's, and Tesco are expected to promote the new accounts, which insiders at the Treasury have dubbed "People's Peps". Isas will replace existing tax-free savings, including

Tessas (tax-exempt specia savings accounts). They will also embrace instant-access bank and building society savings accounts, currently liable to income tax.

Tessas require savers to lock up their money for five years to earn a tax-free return, but the new accounts will not need a waiting period. Small say ers, putting aside perhaps a few hundred pounds a year. will enjoy the same tax privileges as bigger investors in

Peps and Tessas.
There will still be limits on the amounts of money that can be denosited tax-free, but the ceiling will be higher than the £10,000 figure floated last month. This compares with an annual Pep limit of £9,000 and £9,000 over five years for

Weekend Money, pages 51-64





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'He was

stunned when

it was said

he had 12

mistresses'

Lord Spencer's

divorce case

Pages 16-18

have fun

in the Sixties'

Valerie Grove meets

Joan Baez

Page 21

**'Hitler** 

patted him

on the head

as a child'

**Daniel Farson obituary** 

Page 25

# Belgium votes to ban tobacco advertising

By Nicholas Watt AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

TONY BLAIR's difficulties in winning an exemption for Formula One from a Europe-wide ban on tobacco sponsorship deepened last night when Belgium voted for a blanket ban.

Less than a week before European health ministers meet in Brussels to hammer out a directive banning tobacco sponsorship, the Belgian par-liament voted to ban tobacco advertising from roadside billboards. newspapers, magazines, supermarkets and pubs. It will also outlaw sponsorship of sports, cultural and musical

British Government sources said that the Belgian development would have no impact on Mr Blair's decision to exempt Formula One motor racing from a ban on tobacco advertising and sponsorship. One source said that Tessa Jowell, the Health Minister. would demand at next Thursday's meeting of European health ministers that Formula One be exempted in order to save motor racing 50,000 jobs.

One Government source said: "There will be no pressure on us to change our minds. The only effect will be on public opinion." At next week's meeting Ms Jowell will be hoping to delay the drafting of the Directive until next year during Britain's presidency

The change in the law stunned organisers of the Belgian Grand Prix. who warned last night that it would kill off the annual race at the Spa-Francorchamps track. Joseph Moxhet, president of the Spa-Francorchamps track, said: "It's quite simple. I fear next year's Belgian Grand Prix will be the last." The law, which will come into force on January 1, 1999, will only allow tobacco and newspaper shops to indicate they are selling tobacco

Louis Van Velthoven, a Flemish socialist who proposed the law, hailed yesterday's vote in the Belgian senate. He told BRTN Radio: "This is one of the strictest laws in Europe and it makes me happy. Belgium is giving, with other countries including France, good signal to Europe to allow a European directive banning tobacco advertising and sponsoring on a European level. We absolutely need this directive because I don't have to tell you that youth is still confronted with cigarette brands if Formula One

races are held in Germany or Italy." Mr Van Velhoven called on organisers of the Belgian Grand Prix to find other sponsors. He said: "They should get the opportunity to find other

financial sources. Tobacco firms too should be able to remove advertising. There is now a majority in this country against tobacco advertising and sponsoring. Should we find any loopholes. we are determined to close those too."

The European Commission has been seeking a total ban of tobacco advertising for the past eight years. But Britain, Germany, the Netherlands and Denmark have blocked its proposals on several occasions.

Labour, which had campaigned for total ban, infuriated the European Commission earlier this month when it announced that Formula One should be exempted. Padraig Flynn, the Social Affairs Commissioner, wrote a sting-ing letter to Ms Jowell after she informed him of the Government about-turn. Mr Blair's change of heart also led to enormous political difficul-ties at home and within his own party.

### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### Hague devises new slogan for Tories

William Hague began the rebranding of the Conservative Party yesterday with the launch of "popular Conservatism" to rival "new Labour". In a speech to the Tory women's conference in London, he said that the slogan covered reforming the welfare system, supporting institutions such as the family, and enhancing community and security.

Popular Conservatism will be about building strong and

free local institutions to support community and security. Popular Conservatism will be about enforcing the rule of law," he said. The Tory leader said that he would hold a conference in Harrogate in March to vote on his reforms of the party, and that there would be another "bonding session" for Conservative MPs next year.

### Beckett under pressure

Margaret Beckett was facing growing pressure last night to wind-up the blind trust that finances her constituency office in the House of Commons. The President of the Board of Trade yesterday defended her secret source of funding but said that if the investigation into party political funding by Sir Patrick Neill, the Public Standards watchdog, criticised the confidential trusts she would close it.

### Mild spell at an end

The first snows of winter were forecast yesterday, with the unseasonally mild November weather ending early next week. Sharply colder conditions, including night-time frosts and snow showers over higher ground in eastern Britain, are expected. Forecasters said that the warm spell of weather made November the fourth mildest this century, with temperatures some 0.8C above average. Forecast, page 32

### £36 mushroom infested

A wild cauliflower mushroom bought for £36 at Harvey Nichols in Knightsbridge, London, was contaminated with rodent droppings and hair, and infested with a centipede and larvae. The store admitted selling food unfit for consumption and was fined £1,500 with £2,083 costs by West London magistrates. The customer was an off-duty environmental health officer for Kensington and Chelsea council.

### Pupil cannot return

The High Court yesterday refused to order a Kent girls school to take back an unruly 14-year-old even though her assisted place was withdrawn unlawfully. Rosalind McCarthy, the headmistress of Cobham School, considered the excluded girl's place an "immoral" waste of public money. Mr Justice Dyson said he could not ignore a petition signed by 15 pupils who said they were "terrified" of her.

### Guerin suspect jailed

Patrick Holland, 38, who was suspected of involvement in the murder of the journalist Veronica Guerin, was jailed for 20 years for drug dealing, the most severe sentence ever handed down in Ireland for the crime. The Special Criminal Court was told that Holland received about 35 kg of cannabis a week for several months from a Dublin lock-up. The 20,000 kg of cannabis had an estimated value of £20 million.

### No more Hawick Balls

After more than 100 years, Hawick Balls - the mintflavoured sweets favoured by yachtsmen and Antarctic explorers - are no longer being made. Hills of Hawick is in receivership and the staff of seven have been laid off. The balls were first produced in the 1850s by two local women, Aggie Lamb and Jessie McVittie. In their heyday more than 12,000 tins of balls were sold every year, at £1.80 a tin.

### Christmas post dates

by next Saturday, according to the Royal Mail. Cards and letters to addresses within Europe should be posted by December 13 to arrive before Christmas Day. Inland secondclass cards should be sent by December 18. For first-class mail the last posting date is December 21. The Royal Mail is expecting to handle more than two billion cards.



By JOHN O'LEARY

CLASS sizes rose again last year to a 20-year high, it was announced yesterday. However, the Government insisted that it was on target to meet its promise of smaller classes in the first three years of school by the end of the Parliament.

The number of pupils for every state school teacher rose from 18.5 to 18.6 in January. More than a quarter of primary children were in classes of more than 30, compared with barely a fifth in 1992.

Labour's election manifesto promised that classes of five, six and seven-year-olds would have a maximum of 30 pupils. The figures show that almost 500,000 children in this agegroup are in larger classes. Stephen Byers, the School Standards Minister, said that schools were already planning to reduce class sizes. The abolition of the Assisted Places Scheme would free £22 million next year to employ 1,000 more primary teachers, with numbers rising after that.



Tony Blair has lunch yesterday with British troops in Banja Luka, the largest Serb-held town in Bosnia

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### Blair pledges to fight Bosnia war criminals

Tony Blair, on his first visit to Bosnia yesterday, underlined his determination to see war criminals brought to justice. He also, thanked British peacekeeping troops for their but made elear Britain did not plan to remove its mili-

tary presence from the region in the near future. He said: "Those people that commit-ted crimes of ethnic cleansing and were responsible for the appalling scenes that we saw here in Bosnia, those people responsible for that should be brought to justice.

Plan for lawyers to sit on the bench

BY FRANCES GIBB

PLANS for judicial work experience" schemes in which black lawyers can sit along-side judges and learn what it is like on the bench are expected to be unveiled by the Lord Chancellor today.

Lord Irvine of Lairg would also like to see circuit judges, district judges and recorders take junior colleagues "under their wing to advise and guide them up the judicial ladder. The proposals will be put forward at a conference organised by the Law Society. Bar and Lord Chancellor's Department with sponsorship from The Times.

The Lord Chancellor is concerned at the paucity of black judges and black Queen's Counsel. He is expreted to reveal figures showing that the number of ethnic minority lawyers applying to be Queen's Counsel has fallen.

In 1992, there were 420 applications for silk, of which only 14 or 3.3 per cent were not white. But in 1997, it stood at only 2.4 per cent. There are no black judges in the senior judiciary. Only one per cent of circuit judges are not white. and 1.5 per cent of recorders. But 3.4 per cent of assistant recorders are from the ethnic minorities, and are likely to appointed as judges in time.

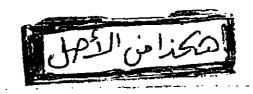
Lord Irvine is expected to call on more ethnic minority lawyers to come forward. They should forget social sterotypes about judges or the statistics which show the predominance of judges from public school, he is likely to say.



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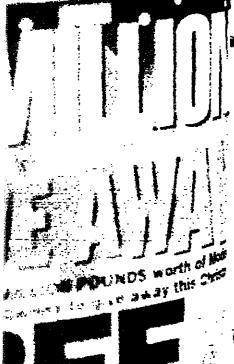
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THE TIMES SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29 1997

# Second body from Luxor massacre lost



Karina Turner: may have been cremated

THE body of a second mem-ber of the family killed in the massacre at the Egyptian tourist resort of Luxor has been lost. Grieving relatives were told yesterday that Karina Turner's remains might already have been cremated

The 24-year-old air stewardess died with her mother, Joan Turner, 51, and her daughter, Shaunnah, 5. Earlier this week it was discovered that the coffin supposed to contain the body of Karina Turner's mother actually contained that of a Swiss woman. Joan

Turner's body lay in Zurich. The three bodies were initially identified by Egyptian authorities before repatriation. Those of Karina Turner and her mother were wrongly

including a relative.

James Turnbull, the deputy assistant coroner for Halifax, said that he was scouring the world to find Miss Turner's body. "I like to be optimistic that the missing body will be

identified in London by three

people who knew the family.

found. It is a sad possibility that she could have been buried or cremated in another country but I have asked the Foreign Office for descriptions of all people killed in the tragedy to find out where she has gone." He has asked diplomats to ensure that no further funerals of victims matching Miss Turner's de-

scription are held. Mr Turnbuli added: "Ali I can do is so say that I will move heaven and earth to assist the investigation so that we first get Joan Turner's body back to this country and secondly locate Karina's body. I am deeply upset. I have no

Woman killed with mother and daughter was wrongly identified, Paul Wilkinson reports

idea where Karina's body is." He expressed his deepest sympathy for the relatives. "I can imagine them feeling deep distress and anger and I can hardly imagine a situation for them which could have been worse. First of all their family were murdered in terrible circumstances but on top of

that there is this added difficulty. Last night Laurence

Whitton, Shaunnah's grandfather, called the authorities who mixed up the bodies "blundering fools". He put some of the blame on Joan Turner's nephew, Ken Robertshaw, an inspector with West Yorkshire Police, who he said had identified his aunt and Karina.

Mr Whitton said: That inspector identified them and

circumstances. The subjects had been dead for some days and transported a long dis-tance. They had been murit's their name on the death certificate. There has been a dered and obiously suffered cock-up. We just want to put them to rest so we can return fatal gun injuries. to some kind of normality."

There are similarities between people of varying ages. I can understand it happening and I do not offer any criticism of the person who did the ton, after they were flown to Heathrow. He said: "The pro-cess of identification by visual identification."

Mr Turnbull said the bodies

had been identified under the

jurisdiction of the West

London coroner, Dr John Bur-

means is always upsetting.

in the best of circumstances.

A colleague of Inspector Robertshaw at the West Yorkshire Police HQ in Wakefield said: "He is distraught. How would you feel?"

### Internet ban on 'domain names' sales

By Adrian Lee

TWO businessmen were banned vesterday from registering Internet addresses based on the names of leading companies for their own

In a clear warning to others, a High Court judge said that the practice, which is wide-spread on the Internet, would not be tolerated. Richard Conway and Julian

Nicholson, both 23, speciali-sed in registering domain names" such as "ladbrokes.com", which are the essential part of locating websites. The pair registered the names for a few pounds

and intended to sell them to

the companies involved for large sums, the court was told. Deputy Judge Jonathan Sumption, QC, granted in-Ladbrokes, BT, Virgin Enterprises, J. Sainsbury and Marks & Spencer — and ordered the two men to pay

E65.000 costs. Mr Conway and Mr Nicholson and their businesses, One in a Million, Global Media Communications and Junic, registered the names and offered them for sale in much the same way as company registration agents.

The court heard that Mr Conway wrote to Burger King offering to sell them the name "burgerking.co.uk." for £25,000 plus VAT, otherwise it would be available for sale to any other interested party.

The judge stressed the mere registration of a name was not, in itself, passing-off or infringement of a trade mark. But the obvious threat was there and infunctions should be granted to prevent it. Other names offered

by Global included "macdonalds.co.uk" and "thetimes.co.uk", "spicegirls.net" buckinghampalace.org". The judge also directed the

men to take steps to have the disputed names assigned to the complaining companies. Mr Conway, who thought up the idea with Mr Nicholson at university, said they were considering appealing.



A red panda cub, one of two born at Edinburgh Zoo in July, explores its enclosure yesterday. The rare pair, a female and a male. whose numbers are threatened by the destruction of their natural habitat, still do not have names and zoo staff have launched a

### Firefox of China views its northern world

competition to name them. Karen Howlett, their keeper, told of her delight with her charges. We're so pleased. The cubs only started to emerge from their

cubbing dens in October. Now they're coming out every day, exploring their enclosure. learning to climb the trees, playing with each other, and eating

hamboo and fruit." In the wild they live in forests in China. northern India, Nepal and Burma. Being much smaller and more agile than their giant

panda cousins, they can climb steeper slopes and live at higher altitudes. Although bamboo is their staple food they eat the occasional egg or small bird. The Chinese were so entranced with their titian-coloured coats that they called them firefoxes.

### Vet hopes for appeal after note discovered in clients' cash

A VET serving life for the murder of his wafe has had his case referred back to the Court of Appeal after the discovery of a note suggesting she intended to kill herself. Ryan James, 42, has consistently claimed that his wife committed suicide but

made it look like murder. The note was discovered in March 1996 by the woman he had married in jail, in an old copy of the Veterinary Record. It read: "Ryan, I leave you absolutely nothing but this note — if you find it in time, Sam." Sam was his wife Sandra's pet name.

The note expresses her bit-terness at learning of her husband's affair with Catherine Crooks, who married Mr James four months after his 1995 conviction. Handwriting and forensic experts have con-firmed that the note was

Yesterday the Criminal Cases Review Commission referred the case back to the Ap-peal Court. A letter to James's awyer concluded: "We consider there is a real possibility that his conviction would not be upheld on a referral." The note was evidence that had not been considered at the trial or at an earlier hearing at the Appeal Court in 1996.

James, who denied murder, was convicted at Stafford Crown Court, he had poisoned his wife with a drug used to anaesthetise horses, apparently because he wanted to collect her life insurance, to support his new life with Ms Crooks.

Sir Peter: concerned

# Accountant gambled £7m

By Paul Whittaker

A PARTNER in a City firm of accountants who swindled the funds of his rich and famous clients to wager more than £7 million on horse races was jailed for two and a half years

in all Alan Lewis, 45, unemployed of Golders Green, northwest London, gambled E7,049,838 over six years for the overall loss of £391,531. He swindled his clients, including a member of the Electric Light Orchestra, another British Eighties pop band Londonbeat and former Brit-ish Olympic cyclist Malcolm Elliott. He had acted as their

Although accountant, Lewis was rated so highly that Mayfair tax specialists Gelfand, Rennert, Feldman and Brown International sought special permission from the Institute of Chartered Accountants to enable him to join as a partner in 1987. The company, with offices across America, handles the British touring companies of such stars as Michael Jackson, Bon Jovi and Billy

Mr Martyn Bowyer, for the prosecution, said at Southvark Crown Court that the full loss to the firm as a result of Lewis's dishonesty was £1.4 million, part of which has been recovered by insurance claims. He said Lewis had gambled all the money away and that he had no assets. Mr Bowyer said Lewis needed to "juggle" huge sums

of money to disguise what was going on. He attempted to cover his tracks by making

false entries in the books. Ian Bourne, for the defence, said his client was a "patho-logical gambler" and not a seeker of the trappings of wealth. There was no evidence of fast living or of the purchase of expensive status symbols. Every penny he could get his hands on went to the

Hardly a day went by when Lewis did not put in a bet at the bookmakers". Lewis began gambling at 12 and spent his spare time studying the bloodline of racehorses. In sentencing Lewis, Judge

bookmakers."

Paul Focke, QC, said: "You betrayed the trust of the firm you worked for and the trust of



### RAF man denies car crash deception

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE RAF officer accused of murdering his wife for the love of a young Serbian interpreter yesterday denied that he was

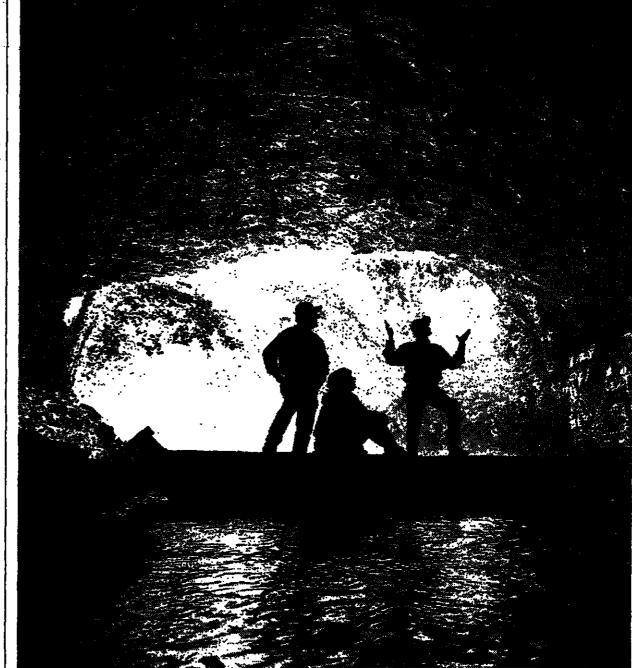
"play-acting" to escape justice. Squadron Leader Nicholas Tucker told Norwich Crown Court it was untrue that he had tried to deceive emergency services attending the scene of a car crash he is alleged to have faked in a river to dispose of his wife. He said he could not remember details of the accident, which ended with his

wife, Carol, 52, drowning in the River Lark in Suffolk. He denied that he had placed himself in the water, apparently unconscious, after first throttling her and then manhandling her body out of the car. He went on to offer a new explanation for bloodstains, alleged to be his, found on her side of their Ford Fiesta after the accident on the night

of July 21, 1995.

Mr Tucker said the stains on her half of the dashboard and on her door could have been caused when he cut his hand removing a dog gate from the car two or three days before her death. The prosecution alleges that the blood was transferred from a cut to his forehead as he tugged her out

of the vehicle. He admitted that he had not mentioned his explanation to police. Mr Tucker, 46, denies murdering his wife after developing a fascination for Dijana Dudokovic, 21, whom he met while serving as a UN military observer in Bosnia.



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### Voice of racing makes one last call

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

SIR PETER O'SULLEVAN, the "Voice of Racing" for half a century, made an impas-sioned plea on behalf of racehorses welfare last night as he prepared to deliver his final BBC commentary at Newbury this afternoon.

The legendary commentator, whose gravely tones and rapid style of delivery have endeared him to generations of racing fans, wants jockeys to to use an air-cushioned whip that does not hurt horses or inflict injury. He also called on the sport to fund a group of rehabilitation centres where racehorses could

go at the end of their racing careers and be retrained as police horses, used in riding stables, or for hunting.

More than 20,000 people are expected at Newbury this afternoon as Sir Peter, 79, who delivered his first television commentary at Kempton in 1946, gives his final commentary in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup.

About 50 horses die each year either racing or training. while hundreds suffer injuries. There is just one centre — in Cumbria — devoted exclusively to rehabilitating racehorses, but that has only

ten boxes and is reliant on donations. "There should be official funding from racing's coffers. The important thing is to make provision before the thoroughbred starts on that slippery slope down the lad-der," Sir Peter said.

He said riders should start using an air-cushioned whip designed by Jim Mahon. "It makes a noise and the horse would know he had been hit but it can't inflict surface damage or, as the current whip does, damage beneath

Simon Barnes, page 43

JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

# Quiet majority invoked to silence hounds

By James Landale and Polly Newton

MICHAEL FOSTER claimed the support of the British people and called on the House of Commons to stand up for "the quiet majority" when he introduced his antihunting Bill yesterday. Mr Foster told a packed chamber that he had received 10,000 letters from across the country supporting the Bill.

Opening the debate on the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill, the Labour MP for Worcester said: "The aim of this Bill is to protect wild mammals from cruelty and from the unnecessary pain and suffering inflicted in the name of a so-called sport."

He quoted witnesses who described how a pack of hounds "savaged" a pregnant vixen. One of them, Eric Griffin, 71, had said: "It is the worst thing I have seen in my life. The hounds were totally out of control and tearing at the vixen. Three cubs spilled out. They were fully developed. I saw the dogs eat one of

Mr Foster's Bill did not cover shooting and fishing. Challenged by Tory MPs why he felt fishing was no less cruel, he said: "I don't believe for one moment that any reasonable person in this country actually thinks fishing and hunting with dogs have anything in common.

In hare-coursing, the greyhound and lurchers caught the hare quickly, "but they then use the hare as a living rug-of-war rope, pulled between them".

The cruellest form of hunting was the pursuit of deer that "the sight of a full field of horses and hounds is absolutely thrilling" and "part of English history. The fieldcraft of a huntsman is remarkable and the skill of the hounds marvellous to watch." But studies showed that "lengthy hunts with hounds impose extreme stress on red deer and

hunting controlled a pest. More than 80,000 foxes were shot each year while only 12,000 were killed by hunts. Foxhounds were bred for stamina to prolong the chase and he rejected claims that the kill was quick.

Mr Foster said that many hunts operated near schools and often shocked children. Draghunting was an effective

"How can we pass judgment on Pakistan, where they set dogs onto bears, or on Spanish bullfighting, when we in this country allow dogs to be set upon deer?" he told MPs. "I urge you all to stand proud, to make your mark in this House, to vote to end the unnecessary, the cruel, the outdated practice of hunting

with dogs. When Mr Foster referred to

> **6** I urge you, stand proud to end this cruel and outdated practice 9

his postbag of 10,000 anti-hunt letters, James Gray (C, Wiltshire North) intervened to say that he had received 2,374 letters from his constituents, with only 467 against the Bill.

Alan Beith (Lib Dem, Berwick-upon-Tweed) said the argument against hunting was not strong enough to send people to prison and to destroy local communities.

He told hunt opponents: "What you are doing is mak-ing common criminals out of people who are engaged in an activity which has been ened in for hundreds of years — mammal. like a s

members of society." Douglas Hogg (C, Sleaford and North Hykeham), the former Agriculture Minister, said that hunting was no different from fishing and shooting in that all involved some degree of suffering. "They are either all of them right or none of them are right. I happen to believe that

all of them are right."
Sir Richard Body (C, Boston and Skegness) said draghunting would not be able to absorb all the former hunting enthusiasts if the Bill were passed. The grassland needed for this sport was becoming increasingly rare and farmers were not willing to allow more than one draghunt on their land each season.

Andrew Bennett (Lab, Denton and Reddish) warned the House of Lords not to block the Bill if it received a clear majority. "They should think very carefully before they defeat the will of the people.

Kevin McNamara (Hull North) urged the Government to find time for the Bili to pass through Parliament. "This is one occasion when new Labour can take a lesson from old Labour - listen to the voice of the House, see what the nature of the majority is, and then supply the time."
Llin Golding (Lab. New-

castle-under-Lyme) said the Bill was wrong because it would damage attempts to control mink. These are the nastiest and most destructive animals in the country," she

Alan Clark (C. Kensington and Chelsea) said he had always been committed to animal welfare, but believed the Bill was poorly drafted and would give the police too much power.

"It is not an exaggeration to say that, on the literal terms of this Bill, a family that goes to the park with a dog and their children and are reported as possibly being about to use that dog to chase a wild and who, in all other respects, not only have their dog im-Mr Foster denied that fox- are regarded as responsible pounded and ... disposed of and correction."



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THE TEN OLDEST FOXHUNTS AND WHERE THE REST OF BRITAIN HUNTS

riers: 18 packs, Hunt hares and foxes. Followers mounted. agles: 74 packs. Hunt hares. Foot followers only. et hounds: 11 packs. Hunt hares. Foot followers only.

O Mink hounds: 19 packs. Bred from remnant of original otter - hunting stock. Foot followers Staghounds: 3 packs. Trained to hunt deer. Mounted followers. nds: 11 packs, Follow scent of human runner, Hunt mounte

Draghounds: 17 packs. No live prey. Follow artificial scented trail. Mounted fol

but also their car, and find themselves subject to draconian fines." Mr Clark said that the Bill

hunt of the Prince of Wales

each. Day visitors pay £25. Hunt days: Tues and Sat.

28 pairs of hounds.

made no attempt to tackle the suffering endured by animals in laboratories and on factory farms, "It is a distraction from the real and fundamental issues of animal welfare which need daily to receive attention

### Bill 'shows Labour intolerance'

BY JAMES-LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

single animal and would damage rural communities. Leading opposition to the Bill, the former Deputy Prime Minister said that the measure displayed a "streak of intolerance" in the Lab-

our Party. He declared that although he did not bunt, he did shoot and fish, and claimed that the Bill was part of a plan by the animal welfare lobby to ban these sports in the future.

Mr Heseltine (C. Henley) said that the Bill allowed the

MICHAEL HESELTINE flushing out of foxes, which told MPs that a ban on constituted an admission with hounds, such as shooting or snaring, could not

> The rich would not suffer from the Bill, he said, because they would go abroad to hunt, but working-class people would be harmed. "How is it that a party which spends most of its life arguing about the creation of jobs, in one piece of legislation is going to decimate the jobs throughout some of the

more remote and fragile

Michael Heseltine, left, and John Gummer

economies in the country?" asked Mr Heseltine. John Gummer (C, Suffolk Coastal), the former Environment Secretary, said that other methods of culling foxes were "cruel and less

effective. In the hunt, the

INTEREST DEPOSIT

quarry is either killed or not killed." The Bill was not, he ciaimed, about crucity, otherwise apponents of huntcerned about the welfare of rats. "It's an issue of sentimentality."

straddles Hertfordshire, Essex and Cambridgeshire. Numerous banks an blind ditches require skilled riding on

ees: 125 paying £330-£395 a

Accusing Labour of wanting to protect pregnant foxes while supporting greater abortion rights, he said:"I find the comments made about pregnant foxes come ill from the party opposite. which votes one week to protect the fox, and to kill babies the next week."

He added: "In a civilised society, you do allow people to do things which you don't approve of yourself.

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# Hoey and Widdecombe defy convention

By POLLY NEWTON POLITICAL REPORTER

THE WILL RID WY NOVEMBER 20

TWO of Parliament's most independent-minded women, Ann Widdecombe and Kate Hoey, risked the wrath of party colleagues with impassioned speeches from unexpected sides of the hunting debate. Miss Widdecombe, Conser-

vative MP for Maidstone and The Weald, delighted Labour backbenchers with a vigorous attack on hunting with hounds, after Ms Hoey, Labour MP for Vauxhall, won the respect of many Tories for her eloquent opposition to a ban. The clash defied conventional wisdom about the politics of hunting and showed the strength of feeling on both sides.

Ms Hoey told the House the sad tale of two guinea pigs which had been killed by a fox two nights ago barely a mile from Westminster. Ms Hoey, who was born on a small farm and brought up in the country, said she had never hunted "but I do understand the reasons for it and the benefits can bring to rural communities".

She was a supporter of animal welfare, she said, but "I have a very vivid memory of the sight early one morning in the fields of a sea of white feathers all over the grass the result of a fox excursion into the chicken house - not just one to eat but every single one routed and killed. So don't give me any more romantic ideas of the pretty little innocent foxes. They are pests and they need to be controlled."

She said that many woods and nedgerows would be destroyed were hunting banned. Farmers would put up barbed wire to divide fields because it was the cheapest option. Ms Hoey had Tory MPs

roaring with approval when she said: "I cannot understand why a country that prides it-



Hester Cooper with the body of Tufty, killed by a fox

When pro-hunt MPs laughed, as she spoke of the terror of be cruel, she asked: "Does that

the pursued animal, she said:

They laugh at it. The deer

when it is running, when it

can feel the hounds closing in,

when it knows its strength is

not going to last - that is

uproariously funny.
Why don't those who actu-

ally are in favour of this Bill

take a trip to Kenya, stand in a

lion reserve, unprotected, and

see if they enjoy the hunt. I

Conceding that foxes could

might enjoy watching it."

### Martyrs' death for guinea pigs

HESTER COOPER'S pet guinea pigs - slaughtered by a for within a bugle call of the Houses of Parliament three days ago became the unlikely martyrs of pro-hunt campaigners during the ommons debate yesterday.

Members who voted for the ban were made to feel they had the blood of Surprise, a smooth white two-year-old, and Tufty, nine months and furry black, on their hands as Kate Hoey, a rare animal indeed as one of the few Labour MPs to oppose the Bill to ban forhunting, informed the House of their untimely deaths on Wednesday afternoon in her constituency of Vauxhall across the river in

Hester, 11, was mourning the loss of her two favourite pets yesterday. "It's very upsetting," she said. "I lost another guinea pig three years ago to a for."

Girls' School, Hammersmith, said she was glad the matter had been raised in Parliament and hoped her pets' deaths would not be in

"People should know that, even if they do ban hunting, it will not stop the foxes in London," she said.

mean we take our standards

from the fox? Is that the propo-

sition? That because the fox

eats a couple of guinea pigs in

a very nasty way, we take our

standards from the fox? I find

The fundamental question

it an amazing proposition."



Surprise, left, and Tufty in their hutch in the Coopers' garden

They are not killed here but captured and released in the country, where they can cause harm to other animals such as new-

Hester's sister. Daisy, 14. discovered the bodies after returning home from school. Although no one saw the culprit, their mother, Janet, said she knew that a fox was to blame: "Their smell is everywhere."

The family's hounds - well, three pet dogs — were locked up at the time and unable to fend off the attacker, who got into the guinea pigs' cage, biting the neck of one. Today Hester will bury Surprise in

was simple, she said. "Is

hunting so wrong that we wish to abolish it? If it is, all

else flows from that - we

don't need to be concerned

that a hunting ban would cost

Addressing the argument

about liberties to do wrong."

the back garden where he once roamed with Tufty, whose remains have not been found.

Mrs Cooper, who has lived in Vauxhall for 22 years, said that foxes were becoming a menace in the area after killing many pets and digging up the gardens of residents.

"An old lady around the corner found a fox in her bedroom after it came in through the cat door," she said. "It did a mess in her bedroom and another in the kitchen. Their mess is very, very smelly.

"We regularly see foxes running up and down our gardens and digging up plants. It is very

at all costs crime and ill-health

because they keep people in

She concluded: "Prolonga

tion of terror is wrong. Those

who practise it, when there are

alternatives which are already

widely practised, do wrong.

ings to discuss the fox problem."

Mrs Cooper, who said that her husband and children had taken part in foxhunts, accused Michael Foster, MP for Worcester, sponsor of the Private Member's Bill to ban

hunting with dogs, of conducting a publicity stunt. "We have a very urban Parliament. I'm sure Mr Foster wouldn't mind if it were rats were being chased by dogs, because they aren't

quite as cute as foxes," she said. Mrs Cooper, a mother of three, added that she believed foxbunting was the most humane way of controlling foxes. The bounds will either kill them or they won't. They are not wounded. The trouble with foxes in towns is that their only predator is man, and nobody will kill them. They are very effective breeders, having two to three cubs

a year.

1 believe in the balance of nature. I don't think foxes should be made extinct, but they need to be controlled, not only in the country

but also here in the city." Hester said she did not attend hunts for the fun of killing a fox, but because she enjoyed riding her horse and seeing the countryside. "The fox dies within three seconds." she said.

Yes, the scenes of a hunt are

splendid - so splendid that

they are all over my dining-

room curtains - but they are

powerful scenes of old England - and in old England.

not in modern Britain, they

### How the world has outfoxed Britain

against its rural inhabitants."

Miss Widdecombe, the

former Prisons Minister, en-

hanced her reputation as a

skilled Commons performer

and formidable opponent

with a speech that brought ap-

plause from the Labour

benches and a rebuke from the

Deputy Speaker for those MPs

who had dared to clap in the

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS AND ROGER BOYES IN BONN

BRITAIN appears alone in enthusiasts of all types in seeking to abandon the an- France, more than any other cient hunting ritual with its. European country and almost hunting pink and packs of three times as many as in

thusiastic, America can mus- swims is hunted and - almost ter a surprising 163 packs of hounds and there are 23 packs in Australia and 13 in Canada. South Africa has two packs and Kenya and India one

Killing animals for sport in France is a right enshrined in the Revolution, a pastime to which artistocrats and peasants are equally wedded. It is tradition that politicians

tamper with at their peril. There are 1.5 million hunt

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ounds.

The French are wildly enthing that flies, runs, hops or

always - consumed in heavy sauce. In a recent study, sociologists Michel and Monique Pincon found that French stag hunters, numbering some 60,000 in total, included "dukes and bankers along with street sweepers and postal workers". Fully 50,000 French people turn out to. watch and applaud the hunt at

least once a year, but never

climb on a horse themselves.

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The Pincons' three-year, study concluded that hunting has never been more popular in

The French routinely defy EU regulations on when and what to hunt, and any athowever tentative, have been met with strenuous and vocal opposition as an assault on French rural tradition.

In Germany, hunting on horseback is rare and the sport is confined to the killing of animals with guns. About 8,000 people a year pass the hunting examination. Candidates must know about animal biology, the different woodland species, trees, ani-mal excrement, how to keep a gun clean, read tracks, gun law and environmental policies. Some hunting songs also

have to be memorised. The average annual bag is one million roe deer, 330,000 wild boar, 66,000 red deer, 35,000 fallow deer. Tens of thousands of foxes are killed but exact numbers not

Among the most famous German hunt enthusiasts was Hermann Goering, who burnt down 100 Polish villages to make a nicely sized hunting terrain in the Bialowice forests. Goering's last bag, on his German estate, was four bi-son, shot in April 1945 as the Russians were moving into

Berlin. Foxhunting in the full Eng-lish tradition still flourishes in northern Virginia. Next Sat-urday in the small town of Middleburg, the local hunt, resplendent in scarlet and accompanied by foxhounds, will ride down the main street at the head of the Christmas parade before taking off across the fields in search of a

"I'm really surprised that England is trying to outlaw foxhunting," said John Kelly, a patrolman with Middleburg police. He suggested that Brit-ons bereft of their sport would be welcome to join the wealthy



Goering: burnt down 100

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thousands of jobs, she re-

marked: "If you abolish crime.

you will put all the police out

health, we will put all the

nurses and doctors out of

work. Is anybody seriously

saying that we must preserve

work. If we abolish ill-



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### Prior engagements keep half cabinet from House

BY NICHOLAS WATE

TONY BLAIR and four of his most senior colleagues headed a list of ten Cabinet ministers prevented from voting by "long-standing engagements" (Nicholas Watt weiter)

They comprise half the Cabinet members who sit in the Commons. The Prime to save a high-tech investment in the

Minister, who is in favour of the ban, was in Bosnia. John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, was in Australia before the Kyoto environment conference. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, was in Poland. Gordon Brown had wanted to vote in favour of the ban, but rushed off to his East Dunfermline constituency to try

town. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary was in his Blackburn constituency.

Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Minister, was in Nottingham and Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, was in Scotland. David Blunket, the Education Secretary, was in his Sheffield constituency. Clare Short was in Brussels and Frank Dobson was in Plymouth.

### MPS WHO DID NOT VOTE

LABOUTE T Blair (Sedgefield), D Stunkett (Steffield Brightside), G Brown (Durtermine E T Clarkie (Coethridge and Chryston), H Cohe (Leyton and Warstead), R Cook (Livingston), J Cummings (Easington), J Cummingstam (Copiand), T Dalyes (Livillington), D Dever (Session Armesland), F Dobson (Holborn and St Pancras F Dorson (Aberdean Central), G Duneroody (Crew and Nanswich), F Field (Birlowhised), S Galbrail (Strathlesivin and Beanaden), B George (Walsel S T Graham (Rentravestine W), N Griffithe (Edit burgh S), A languam (East Kibride), P Killoyi (Liverpool Watton), H Liddell (Airtife and Shotts T Lloyd (Manchester Central), R McCenn (Cumbernauld and Kisyth), H McLeish (File Central), P Mandelson (Hartepool), D Marshall (Giarra Marshall Colleges (Manchester)), A Marshall (Giarra Marshall Colleges)

NE, J Reid (Hamilton N and Belshift), C Sik (Birthingham Ladywood), A Saith (Oxford I P Sampe (West Bromwich E), J Straw (Backburt B Wilson (Currenghame N, R Winterton (Do caster Central), T Worthington (Chydebank at Mingeria)

CONSERVATIVE: T Saithy (Banbury

CONSERVATIVE: Fastery (Cartonicy (Surroy - Patternicy (Northing W), V Bottomicy (Surroy - SW); J Butterflif (Botdmemouth W), S Chimpmen (Chipping Bernett, A Clark (Kensington and Chessel). M Cark (Royleigh). M Cohrin (Homsey). M Phibricant (Licitald). M Fallon (Sovencaks). L Foxt (Woodspring); T-Gorman (Billericay). N Haydons (Surray Health). Shr 2 Health (Old Bedoy and Sidcup). J Horam (Orpington). J Lat (Beckenham); Skr P Lloyd (Faretam). J Major (Huntingdon). H Maltina (Wolding). M Mittas (Hampshire E). R Shepherd. (Aldridge-Brown-fills). C spelingtr. (Metdon). Str. J Startey

pripridge and Melling). N Waterson (El urne), T yeo (Suffelk S). BERAL DEMOCRAT: PAshdown (Yeo

AINOR PARTIES: R Cumingham (SNP Perta)

Il Buring (SNP Morey), C Forsythe (ULP Ansins S)

Hume (SDLP Foyle), E Livryd (PC, Messonsythe
iant Conwy), R McCartney (UK Unionist Down N)
iant Conwy), R McCartney (UK Unionist Down N)
iant Conwy), S McCartney (UK Unionist Down N)
iant Conwy), S Malton (SDLP Now)
ond Armagh), (Paisley (DUP Ansinn N)
Robinson (DUP Belkest E), M Smyth (UU)
elitest S), J Taylor (ULP Strengford), C Wallon
ULP Bellast N), D Wigley (PC, Caemarlon).

### MPS WHO VOTED FOR THE BAN

LABOUR: D Abbott (Hackney N and Stoke Newergton Adams (Paisley N), N Ainger (Cernerthen W a Perntyokeshire S), R Ainsworth (Coventry NE), Alexander (Paisley S), G Allen (Nothingham N), Anderson (Swartsas E), J Anderson (Rosentula) a Derwen), H Arnstrong (Durham NM), J Ashi (Bassetiawi, C Atherion (Falmouth & Camborne), Alkikin (Sadiordshire Moorlands), J Austin (Erith a Tharnsmead), 7 Beniks (West Ham), H Bern (Chevyshire NE), K Bernon (Rother Valev), J Bast (Leeds W), H Bayley (York Cay), N Bead (Bedsyheat Crayford), M Becklett (Derby S), A Begg (Aberdeen S), Ball (Middlesbrough), T Benn (Chesteriteid), A Benn (Chesteriteid), A Benn (Centry), H Bern (Chesteriteid), Benn (Sheffeld), Benn (Chesteriteid), Benn (Benn), H Best (Leets NW), C Be (Shoffeld Attendite), E Blackman (Fewesti), H a Blear (Satiord), H Bitzard (Waveney), P Boate (Gent S), D Bennow (Ribble S), K Bradley (Machesbrough), P Bradley (The Writin), B Bradley (Machesbrows (Kitmamock and Loudoun), K Buck (Pegen Derk Mensington), P Bradley (The Writin), B Bradley (Report S), P Campbell (Tynamouth), A Campbell (Cambridge), Campbell (Tynamouth), A Campbell (Cambridge), Campbell (Byth Valey), D Cesspel-Savou (Morkargton), D Calesvay (Brigg end Goole), B Chapm (Morkard S), D Celente (Morkard S), E Clarke (Giower), I Clark (Southard), D Clark (Southard), T Clarke (Giower), D Clarke (Giorburgh Perthands), D Clarke (Giorburgh Pert

Bridge). A Chayel (Cynon Velley). V Costor (Geding), Coffey (Stockport). I Colomen (Hymmersmith en Fullem). A Colomen (Putney). If Contacty (Falkrik E). Cook (Stockport). I Colomen (Hymmersmith en Fullem). A Colomen (Putney). If Contacty (Falkrik E). Cook (Stockport). N. J Corston (Bristoll E). J Costoll (Colomen). Costoll (Bristoll E). J Costoll E). Contacty (Bolton NE). A Crystoll E). J Cryst (Hornchurch). L Cuntill E). J Costoll E). Contacty South, C Curtis-Thomas (Crostol). A Darling Edinburgh Central). X David (Bristoll West). I Davideo (Gaspow Policick). D Davies (Carphilly). T Davideo (Gaspow Policick). D Davies (Carphilly). T Davideo (Bilmingham Contacts). R Davies (Carphilly). T Davideo (Croydon Central). R Davies (Carphilly). T Davideo (Croydon Central). R Davies (Carphilly). T Davideo (Croydon Central). R Davideo (Carphilly). J Davideo (Croydon Central). R Davideo (Carphilly). J Davideo (Contacts). Debton (Heywood Edinary). J Deen (Burton). J Debton (Heywood Edinary). J Deven (Stockport). J Davideo (Carphilly). J Davideo (Car

J Grogan (Satby). J Gunnell (Morley and Rothwell), Hain (Neath), M Hail (Weever Vale), P Hail (Bectord), Hamilton (Leeds NE), D Hamson (Opin), H Hamilton (Leeds NE), D Hamson (Opin), H Hamilton (Leeds NE), D Hamson (Opin), H Hamilton (Ratherwell and Pecifican), S Heal (Helesowern et Rowley Regis), J Healey (Wertworth), D Henderse (Kernewski Lyon Tyre N), I Henderston (Harvich), Heppell (Nothingham E), S Hestin (Harvich), Heppell (Nothingham E), S Hestin (Harvich), J Henderston (Extra Lotham), J Hodge (Barking), J Henderston (Extra Lotham), J Hodge (Barking), J Hodge (Chiral), Hodge (Chiral), Hodge (Chiral), Extra Little (Portypirids), L Hodge (Chiral), Highes (Oncasis) As the Barking (Portypirids), L Hodge (Chiral), Barkinse), J Hutton (Barnow and Furness), B kide (Botton SE), E Missiey (Barnisey Central), G Jackso (Hampstead and Highgals), H Jackson (Shellis Bishorough), D Jamson (Hull W & Hessie), Jentichs (Tarnsworth), A Johnson (Hull W & Hessie), Jentichs (Tarnsworth), A Johnson (Hull W & Hessie), Senting (Delwich and West Norwood), G Kautha (Marchester Gotton), S Keeble (Northampton N), J John (Karningham Si), J Kennedy (Liverpool Wavetrree), Chaloro (Eafing Southall), D Kleng (Stafford), A Lawrenc (Presail Pernbrokestrin), S Lastron (Derby N), D Leppe (Presail Pernbrokestrin), S Lastron (Derby N), D Leppe (Presail Pernbrokestrin), S Lastron (Derby N), D Leppe (Presail Pernbrokestrin), B Lastron (Derby N), D Leppe

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# Gifts for Sandhurst staff investigated

NCOs have been suspended after an

Arab officer cadet complained his

presents failed to induce instructors

to pass him, Michael Evans reports

THREE senior NCOs who have been suspended during an investigation at the Royal Military Academy, Sand-hurst, are alleged to have received gifts from foreign students that breached a limit of £50. The gifts are said to have included Rolex watches and cash.

ED NOT VOTE

Seven NCOs are under investigation; the four others are continuing with their jobs at the Army's teaching college. If the allegations against them are proved, they are likely to

face disciplinary action. The investigation follows a complaint by an officer cadet from an Arab royal family. He made it clear that he had handed over gifts on his personal understanding that they would persuade his NCO instructors to ensure that he passed out with good

grades.

The Royal Military Police
Special Investigations Branch
was brought in when the
cadet, believed to be from a



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Denaro: Commandant

Gulf state, was told he had failed and would not be able to pass out at the Sovereign's Parade.

Ten per cent of the officer cadets who take part in the parade at three ceremonies a year come from overseas, many of them from Middle Eastern countries such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and

It is a tradition in that part of the world, and in Africa, for royal families and other ruling elites to send their sons to Sandhurst. It is also a tradition, as part of their culture, to offer gifts as a mark of thanks to individual NCO instructors once they have completed

Famous foreigners trained at Sandhurst include kings, princes, coup leaders and wealthy civilians. Among the latter was Dodi Fayed, son of the Harrods owner and friend of Diana, Princess of Wales. Mr Fayed passed out from Sandhurst in 1974.

The academy, whose Com-mandant for the past six weeks has been Major-General Arthur Denaro, a former SAS officer who commanded the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars in the Gulf War, is acutely aware of the giftgiving tradition and sets down strict rules about the conditions under which presents can be accepted. They state that while it is not prohibited to receive small gifts by way of thanks, anything that has a value of more than £50 has to be declared and retained by the Ministry of Defence.

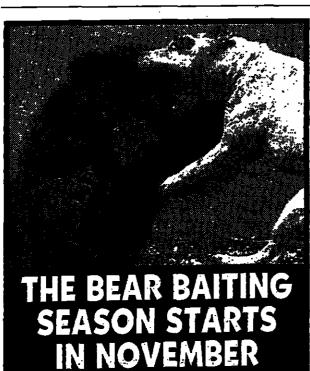
Although the allegations against the NCOs are being

### **British soldiers** damaged hotel

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

TWO British soldiers who had been absent without leave since October will be sentenced next week for causing £2,000 damage to a five-star

hotel in Cyprus. Another British soldier is to be sentenced for a spate of burglaries on the island. A without leave since May, is wanted in connection with the burglaries. All four were serving with the 1st Battalion King's Regiment. After drinking in several pubs. Privates Carl Townes and Philip Hughes, both 19, broke into the accounts office of the Palm Beach Hotel and caused the damage, a court in Lamaca yesterday. Both had pleaded guilty. In a separate case. Private Keith Hollywood, 23, pleaded guilty to four burglaries.



buil terriers. His teeth have been ripped out and his claves bhusted, so he is at the dogs' mercy. The bear doesn't know the trainer won't let him be killed. Over and over again, be is fighting for his life. Over 2,000 bear haltings take place each year in Pakistan, despita the fact that they are now banned by law.

Our Linearty campaign frees captive bears and returns them to a safe natural habitat, campaigns to enforce laws protecting bears, and fights ignorance with training and education.

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Present . . . chocolates!!

suspended are believed to be colour sergeants — it is accepted that an inadequate student who believes he can bribe his way into passing out at the Sovereign's Parade is deceiv-

One of the accused NCOs said: "It is no different to giving tips in a restaurant or bunging the binman or post-

way of saying thanks. It is rubbish to say we were selling favours. The very fact that someone has complained that he didn't get the grades he expected is surely proof of He added: "If you were to

look back at the college's 200year history, I am sure you could find lots of aristocrats who have splashed cash about in the hope of improving their lot. But now it has come to light, some good instructors are going to end up being booted out of the Army just for accepting the gratitude of foreign students who can well afford it." As a result of the military

police investigation, several students from Arab countries who had passed out were interviewed. They disclosed that they had handed over gifts and the homes of all seven NCOs were searched. Army sources denied reports that the gifts involved cars or anything of such substantial

They also said that when

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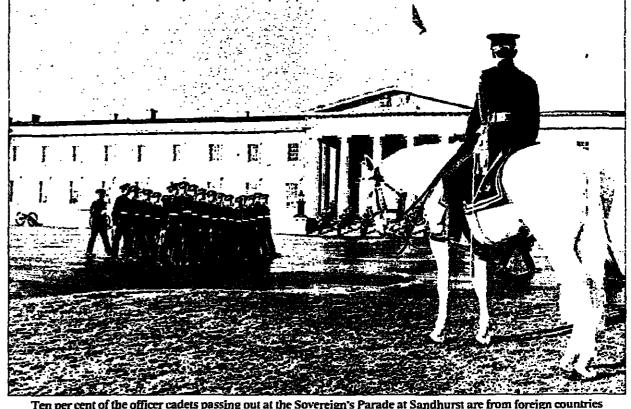
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Ten per cent of the officer cadets passing out at the Sovereign's Parade at Sandhurst are from foreign countries

Arab students offered gifts of thanks, it was a matter of judgment whether it was appropriate to accept them. If they were small items, it would not be frowned upon. Any gift such as a gold watch or cash would be a different

when Field Marshal Lord Bramall, former Chief of the Defence Staff, represented the Queen. Twenty-five overseas students passed out with a view to being commissioned in the armed forces of their countries. They included

Sheikh Salman Abdullah al Khalifa from Bahrain, Saleh Ghalib al Quaiti from Saudi Arabia, Salem Abdullah al Dahmani from the United Arab Emirates, and Mohammed Ali Jaber al Marri from

The next parade will be on

December 12, when between 200 and 250 officer cadets will pass out, and again about 10 per cent of them will be from overseas. At any one time there are about 800 students at the academy and the permanent staff consists of 50 officers



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# Shades of yesteryear unearthed

Forest of Dean ochre miners are back in business,

reports Simon de Bruxelles

THREE hundred feet below ground, in the bowels of Britain's only other mine, a man with a pickaxe chips away at a deposit of rustcoloured mineral. A few handfuls of precious powder are placed in a sack and the miner crawls back towards daylight.

A revolution in DIY has created a demand for the pigment not seen since the Late Middle Ages as older homes are restored using the same techniques and materials with which they were built. Several large paint manu-



facturers now boast "heritage" paints which claim to reproduce the colours of the past. The National Trust and the Victoria and Albert Museum have each given their imprimatur to rival ranges.

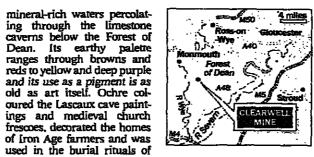
The resurgence of traditional painting techniques using naturally occuring materials coincides with the growing interest in the "period" end of the homes market reflected in television programmes such as The House Detectives and Channel 5's Period Rooms. The monthly magazine Period

Ochre such as that mined by Jonathan Wright was used in Stone Age paintings. Modern examples, above, were produced on courses run by the Clearwell Caves museum Living has increased its circulation 56 per cent year on year to more than 100,000. Amateur restorers are once again using distempers, lime washes and other materials.

They are reaping the benefit at the Clearwell Caves ochre mine near Coleford in Gloucestershire. The caves were reopened to the public 30 years ago as a museum, but the renewed demand for othre means Clearwell is once again

Jonathan Wright, 37, is one of the Forest of Dean's few Ochre is an oxide of iron deposited millennia ago by remaining Freeminers who,

Stone Age man.



for more than 700 years, have enjoyed the right to extract has grown by more than 25 per cent in the past two years alone. People who have older houses want to use the old materials and modern paint ranges — even if they claim to be traditional colours — can't match it.

"Othre is particularly appropriate to homes with a lot of wood and stone in them because it is a completely natural product. It is also completely harmless, both to

people and the environment." The mine produces just three or four tonnes of othre a year, which is sold in 250ml jars at £10 each. Production is carefully paced, as no one knows how much more is down there.

Jane Knapp, an expert on decorative paint techniques who is working on the restoration of the banqueting hall at Longleat, Wiltshire, says her clients nearly all prefer traditional materials. She is often asked for lime washes and "size" — a glaze made with

crystals from rabbit skin. You only have to look at the magazine rack in W.H. Smith

to see that it's a rapidly expanding market. As we approach the millennium everyone is looking backwards. We seem desperate to hang on to the past," she added.

Patrick Batey, an authority on traditional painting materials and an adviser to English Heritage, says older-style materials may be more appropriare for period homes, particularly because they allow walls to "breathe", preventing damp, but they are not necessarily the easiest to use

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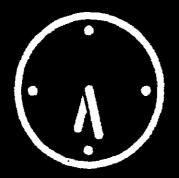


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### Britain is still a Christian nation insists Carey

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Archbishop of Canterbury has criticised the view of Britain as a multi-faith society, insisting that the coronation service of the Prince of Wales will be Christian.

In a magazine interview, Dr George Carey says that British society is fundamentally Christian and any form of inter-faith worship is wrong.

Dr Carey's views are pub-lished in Third Way, a month-ly evangelical Christian magazine. He also gave his view on abortion, saying that it is not always wrong.

Speaking to Huw Spanner, consulting editor of Third Way, Dr Carey says that ish society is not phiralist. We mustn't concede the game to being a multi-faith society. We are not Other faiths comprise less than 10 per cent of the population. So, 90 per cent are still rooted in a

Christian position." He says he will not compromise on central Christian beliefs. "I do not agree with interfaith worship. And other faiths don't like it either. You won't find a Muslim who would want it."

His comments challenge the views of the Prince, who has said that he wishes to be

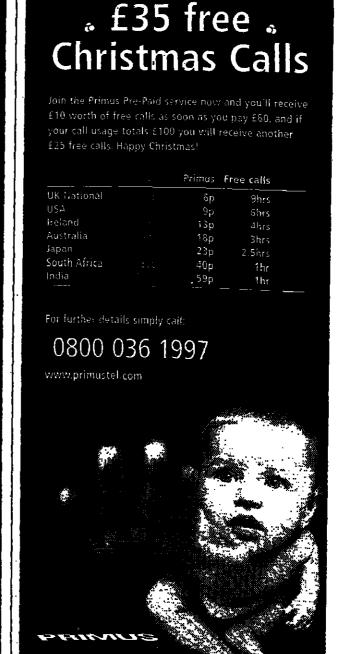
seen as "Defender of Faith" rather than "the Faith" when he succeeds the Queen to the throne and becomes Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Asked about the coronation, Dr Carey says: "It will inevitably be a Christian

He makes it clear that, in talking with people of other faiths, he does not stint on the biblical injunction to evangelise. "In my commitment to dialogue between the religions, I have been much up-front in emphasising the uniqueness of Christ," he says.

Dr Carey adds: "Inter-faith dialogue is important - do not unapologetic in my commit-

On abortion he says: "I, and most Anglicans, would go as far in being for life as 1 possibly can, but I can't say 🐇 that abortion is always wrong. That is where the Anglican position takes us.'

☐ The General Synod of the Church of England debated the plight of asylum-seekers yesterday. It expressed concern about last year's asylum and immigration Act, calling for a "fairer, firmer, faster"



e of life **throom** 





# Scar-free breast surgery perfected

British team unveil breakthrough in keyhole technique that could

benefit 6,000 women a year having

mastectomies, reports Ian Murray

BRITISH surgeons have per-fected a keyhole surgery technique which allows them to remove a breast tumour and rebuild the breast afterwards in one four-hour operation. After the wound heals it is almost impossible to tell the

operation ever happened. The technique has been developed by Richard Rainsbury, a senior tutor on advanced breast disease at the Royal College of Surgeons, and Paul Peyser, his colleague at the Royal Hampshire Coun-ty Hospital in Winchester. Their method was explained yesterday to a meeting of the British Association of Surgical

Oncology.

The aim of the operation is to leave the patient's skin as undarnaged as possible. An incision no more than about six centimetres long is made around the nipple and the tumour is removed through it.
This leaves the skin of the breast hanging empty. The

surgeon then makes another incision in the patient's back. raising a flap along a line which will be covered by a bikini or bra strap. Through this he frees one of the four muscles which bring the arm down to the side.

The muscle is then slid around inside the body, rotated under the armpit and dropped into the empty breast. where it is sewn into place along with a little disc of skin to replace the nipple. If required, a tissue expan-der, such as a silicone or saline

implant, is inserted under the muscle to make the reconstructed breast match the healthy one. Loss of the muscle which is used to fill the breast causes only minor problems. "It can

doing cross-country skiing or geting out of the bath," Mr Rainsbury said. Once the wound has healed,

make it difficult for someone

the nipple can be reconstruct-

THE "SCARLESS" Maple can now be reconstru **MASTECTOMY** pocket and new circular skin patch fits in the "hole". A saline or silicone implant

ed by an operation done in day surgery and the scarred skin tattooed to a natural colour.

The procedure of removing the turnour and getting the reconstruction done immediately has surgical, psychological and financial advantages," Mr Rainsbury

with scarred tissue when you carry out the reconstruction and the whole process is speeded up because there is no need to re-examine the patient

before a second operation. "Psychologically, it helps the patient, who does not have to worry about whether to have a second operation and

being able to have an immediate reconstruction will improve womens' attitude to the Financially, the cost of

volved. Although there is little

data about this, it is likely that

performing just one operation instead of two will mean a

ional Health Service of £1,000

per panent."

Mr Rainsbury said that surgeons now needed to be trained in the new technique. Around 6,000 of the 10,000 women a year who have mastectomies could benefit from the operation, but only a handful of surgeons are so far

### New treatment for advanced meningitis

By Audrey Magee, Ireland correspondent

DOCTORS in Ireland claim to have found an improved treatment for meningococcal septicaemia, a disease that kills half the patients affected and damages survi-

vors' limbs and organs. The doctors, whose findings are published in the current edition of The Lancet. claim to have saved 12 meningitis patients close to death by giving them Protein C, a natural bloodthinning enzyme. About 300 people died of meningitis in England and Wales last year. Meningococcal meningitis is the most life-threatening form of the disease, responsible for over half of the

cases of bacterial meningitis. Owen Smith and his team, from the National Children's Hospital and St James's Hospital in Dublin, administered the protein intravenously to the patients in hospitals around the city. None of the 12 patients, aged between three months and

27 years, died. Two patients suffered amoutations and one had chronic renal failure. "The patients not only survived but we also pre-vented a lot of the complications that you see in patients that survive such as skin grafts, amputations and re-nal disease," Dr Owen said.

He used Protein C, as well as the accepted treatments for critically ill meningitis patients, such as antibiotics, other anti-coagulants and fluid to flush out the system. He believes that Protein C works by counteracting the thrombosis prevalent when the meningococcal bacteria enter the bloodstream. Bloodclotting usually indicates

that a patient is near death. Dr Owen emphasises that early treatment with antibiotics remains the best way of treating meningitis, but suggests Protein C for the later stages of the illness. He said that further research was

### Britain is still hristian nation insists Carey

### IN BRIEF

### Man dead in cell was suicide risk

David Jenkins, 28. of Hirwaun in Glamorgan, who was found dead in his cell on Thursday at the recently opened Securicor-managed Pare jail near Bridgend while awaiting sentence, had slashed his throat in a magistrates' court two months ago, it

### Arson boy held

had a grudge against the to serve two years in detention by a judge at Bolton Crown Court.

### Fourth life term

Frederick Low, 41, received his fourth life sentence for the murder of Norman Manning, 26, a fellow prisoner, in a row over a piano lesson at Long Lartin jail.

### Support club

Birmingham City Football Club has had a special seat bailt at St Andrew's stadium so that 50-stone Barry Austen, 29, will be able to watch his favourite team play Portsmouth today.

### Fresh move to ban lakeland powerboats

By MICHAEL HORNSBY

A DECISION by the former Environment Secretary, John Gummer, not to ban powerboating and water-skiing on Windermere has been quashed by the High Court. which had heard complaints that he acted without giving adequate reasons.

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister and Mr Gummer's successor, decided not to contest an application for a judicial review submitted by the Lake District National Park and will now reconsider the case for a ban.

The park authorities last year proposed amending a bylaw so as to impose a 10mph speed limit on power-driven boats. It said the limit, which would effectively stop waterskiing and jet-skiing, was visitors and residents to enjoy the lake in peace and safety.

Mr Gummer refused to confirm the new bylaw despite the conclusion of an independent inspector that there was a "fundamental problem of incompatibility" between fast boats and other users. About 7,000 powerboats are registered annually to use Windermere, which is 10½ miles long. At busy times as many as 1,500 craft are on the water.

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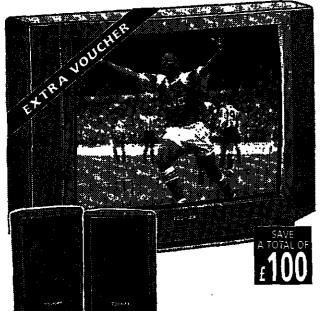
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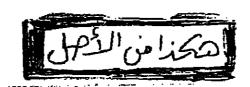
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# Henry VIII AUNDER 180 IS Culinary of shape of the future



Game is on again as Britain gets a taste for Tudor cooking, writes **Robin Young** 

6 Take one

woodcock,

suet, dates,

chicken,

prunes,

duck and

egg yolks 🤊

THE sort of food that sustained Henry VIII is returning to the

dinner and restaurant table. The revival of Old English fare is the coming cookery trend as sales foretell the end of the so-called new British cuisine, which draws inspiration from continental, Far Eastern and American dishes. Sales of venison, boar and rabbit are rocketing, supermarkets report, as cooks turn to the sort of food that would have been enjoyed by Henry and his court.

Dishes such as venison pie and rabbit stew have re-established themselves as favourites; saddle of rabbit often appears on restaurant menus; wild boar farmers are reporting record sales; and it may

only be time before. haunch of yenison supplants beef once more as the Sunday roast. Tesco is now canvassing farmers to consider stocking herds of deer to supply the rapidly grow-ing market. Tesco's sales of rabbit have more than doubled in the past 12 months. Steve Murrells. Tesco's meat category

through the gamut of dishes from France, Italy and China. Now they are looking for something different and finding the answer on their own doorstep. The rich flavours of old English cooking are amazing and certainly as good as any of the traditional dishes from the French countryside.

Safeway, which has been selling wild Scottish venison for more than three years, said that demand was still rising steadily. Sainsbury's has recently increased its intake of

venison from English deer parks. The revival of traditional English cookery is welcomed by Kit Chap-man, proprietor of the Castle Hotel in Taunton, Somerset, and his chef, Phil Vickery. Mr Vickery's revival-ist recipes include such delights as roast scallops with bubble and squeak, haunch of venison with chestnuts and prunes, and steamed spiced lamb pudding. He said yes-terday: "Braised rabbit legs. braised ox tongue and venison meatballs sell out as bar food." The trend is also hailed by the

television chef Gary Rhodes, who

Sales of wild boar are increasing, but principally through specialist meat producers. There are not yet enough supplies for supermarkets. Rabbit, on the other hand, is able. Much of the rabbit meat on the market now is home-produced. Dietitians are concerned at the

> because it has been calculated that Henry VIII's daily consump tion totalled at least 5,000 calories, about double today's average. One popular Tudor recipe, Great Pie, involved a cholesterol-laden blend of woodcock, suet, dates, sins, duck and egg yolks. The Tudor per-

themselves largely to three regular meals a day. Whereas of old we had breakfasts in the forenoon, beverages or munchions after dinner, and thereto rearsuppers generally when it was time to go to rest, now these old repasts, thanked be to God, are very well left." wrote one commentator.

who wrote English Heritage's booklet on food in 16th-century

The main meal would often be followed by an elaborate dessert course of sweetmeats, fruit and wine, displaying as much as pos-sible of wealth, colour, ingenuity

is shortly to launch a range of "restaurant quality" ready-meals, manufactured by Hazlewood Foods. They include such historic British staples as salmon fish cakes, pork sausages in onion gravy, lamb hotpot, beef stew and dumplings and braised oxtail.

available at most butchers' counters, though cheap imports from China are no longer avail-

Peter Brears, the food historian

Britain, describes a standard meal for the Tudor monarchs as likely to contain "loynes of Veale, cold Capon, Beefe and Goose, with Pygeon pyes and Mutton colde. Neates tongs poudred well, and Gambones of the Hogge, then Satilsages and savery knackes".

and culinary splendour.

Amanda Ursell, a nutritional

consultant, said yesterday: "Venison and game are relatively healthy alternatives to other red meat as they tend to be leaner, and



### All the ingredients for a truly murderous plot

AS WINTER sets in and the shops fill with seasonal foods, Italy is being gripped by its first "gastro-nomic thriller", set in the sumptuous and dangerous world of

Renaissance intrigue.
Called simply The Banquet, the novel offers a unique blend of late 15th-century power play, historical pageantry and lovingly described food and drink — "a heady mixture of power, passion and recipes", as one reviewer put it.

The book, by Orazio Bagnasco himself a colourful character with past links to both Italian high finance and the Far Left

deliberate challenge to Umberto Eco on his own ground, and resembles The Name of ly background and its gripping series of mysterious and ghastly deaths. The book records in Rabelaisian detail the "banquet to end all banquets", staged (with the help

to celebrate the marriage sealing the political alliance between two dynasties: the Sforza Dukes of Milan, and the Aragon Kings of Naples.

But Signor Bagnasco has em-Lemons were a favourite Italian, if not English, ingredient broidered history to make it a banquet with a difference: on the journey from Naples to Tortona, murder is plotted along with the menu, and one by one the hapless live snake, a couple of mice, or some blackbirds could be concealed in the empty compartment, to make their appearance at the table when the pie was served. bridegroom's friends and relatives gasp, turn purple and die, becom-Such pies were the origin of the ing what the publishers call "Manursery rhyme about the four and fia-style excellent cadavers".

Faced with a 1998 budget of economic austerity and relatively mundane daily politics, Italians are now a protected species. Leading article, page 23 happily immersing themselves in

twenty blackbirds, but the birds are

Richard Owen on a gastronomic thriller

for Italian tastebuds

The Banquet. "What is most delicious can also be most treacherous," Bagnasco said. "That goes for food, women and a lot else."

Bagnasco, 69, was born in Genoa, not far from the site of the fabled 1488 wedding banquet at Tortona Castle. Politics, banking and antiquarian books aside, his

Smothered rabbit Take a Pipkin, a porrenger of water, two or three spoonfuls of Vergis, ten Onions pilled, and if they be great quarter them, mingle as much Pepper and salte as will season them, and rub it upon the rabbit: put in a peece of butter in the believ and a beece in the broth, and a few Currans if you wil, stop your pot close and seethe it wil a softe fier but no fier under

the bottom, then when it is sodden serve it in upon soppes

and lay a few Barberies upon the dishe.

secret passion is gastronomy. Founder of the International Library of Gastronomy at Lugano, Switzerland, he spent two years gathering material for The

Banquet. In an attempt to bring alive "the world of the senses" of 500 years ago, he has drawn on the paintings of the time, its documents, fashion, jewels, weaponry and dances. "It was a world of power and violence, where there were no limits to either," he said. "It was a world where a few people had more than

anyone had ever had at any other

fine food. "I regard the art of the kitchen as a metaphor for the human comedy," he said. He tried out most of the recipes in his own kitchen, including pheasant breast oie, pigeon pie and a "potage of chicken livers and cocks' combs".

One murder takes place while turtle doves and larks are emerging from a remarkable confection con sisting of towers and battlements made of marzipan and nougat. The real banquet was held for the wedding of Gian Galeazzo Sforza. the 20-year-old Duke of Milan, and

> 18-year-old daughter of King Alfonso of Naples. glasses were made of special glass designed to "shatter if it came into contact with poison". Nonetheless, in Bagnasco's story, five people die in the course of the feast. In reality, Gian Galeazzo died in suspicious circumstances, but not until four years later. In Bagnasco's view,

Isabella of Aragon, the

"all roads lead to the kitchen. If you know what people ate, and how they ate it, you will have understood the essentials of the society they lived in."

Conscious of the Umberto Eco analogy, he says he has "tried to reconstruct a period which is truer than Eco's Middle Ages, where no one seems to do anything but sing

Gregorian chants all day." Il Banchetto is published in Italian by Mondadori in Milan. It is not yet available in English. Bagnason is working on his next project, a murder mystery set in 18th-century Venice.



are particularly good sources of

iron and zinc, but 400g a day is

quite enough. People were much

more active in the 16th century and

Tudor times was the surprise pie,

baked with one compartment

"blind", filled with flour and beans

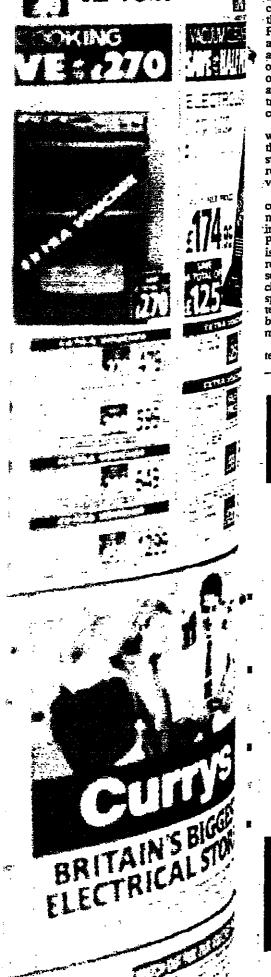
which could be discarded when baking was complete. Thereafter a

did not have central heating." Another popular conceit of



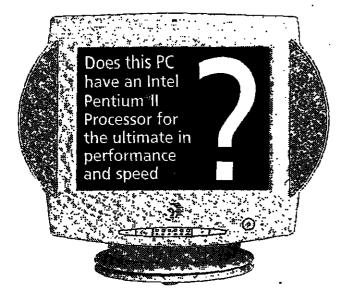
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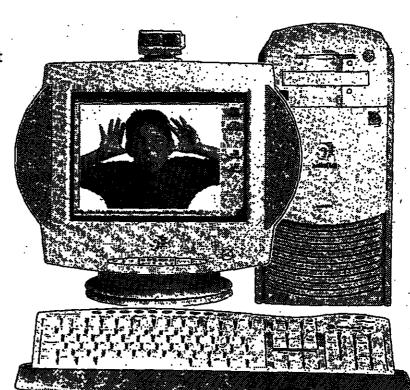
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### Arafat spurns accord on land

all this.

By Christopher Walker IN JERUSALEM

MIDDLE EAST peace moves suffered a setback yesterday when the Pales-tinians rejected an Israeli plan to fuse three scheduled West Bank troop withdrawals into one in a bid to launch fast-track talks on a final settlement.

The rejection came even before Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, had won his divided Cabinet round to the plan, which would give Yassir Arafat, the President of the Palestinian Authority, control of 6-8 per cent more of the West Bank before the final negotiating round.

The peace agreement called for Israeli redeployment in three phases ... none of them has been implemented," said Marwan Kanafani, Mr Arafat's spokesman. "We are going to take what is our right in the first phase, in the second phase and in the third phase."

Mr Kanafani, giving the first official Palestinian Anthority reaction to the Israeli plan, added: "We want all the land that belongs to us and we are not going to get into the game of percentages."
The Tel Aviv daily

Yediot Aharonot reported that Elyakim Rubenstein, the Attorney-General, had informed the Government that it was legally obliged under the terms of the accord signed with the Palestine Liberation Organisation to implement all three stages.

Supporters of the plan claim that the Palestinian Authority has failed to honour pledges to which it was committed.

The Israeli Cabinet is due to meet tomorrow to debate the plan. The session comes amid rightwing threats to overthrow the Government's 66-54 Knesset majority if any more of what is seen as "biblical Israel" is handed to the Arabs.

# Apartheid lies were spread by Glasgow agent'

FROM SAM KILEY IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH AFRICAN intelligence agents successfully planted stories in leading British newspapers aimed at smearing the African National Congress and Winnie Madikizela-Mandela in particular. as part of an international propaganda campaign, according to former secret ser-vice agents who testified at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearings here

Information exaggerating the role of the South African Communist Party within the ANC and an "invitation" to the IRA to attend the 49th ANC conference in Durban in 1991 were also manufactured and fed to sympathetic groups abroad, including the Conservative Party, they said.

yesterday.

In a document dated June 20, 1991, Warrant Officer Paul Erasmus, who testified yesterday, said that Vanity Fair, The the international press." Out-

Times, The Independent, The Sunday Times and the Daily Express were among publications in which "notable successes . were achieved by Stratcom, the "covert Strategic Communication" branch of the Special Branch.

name other British contacts.

Mr Erasmus has forged

friendly ties with Mrs

Mandela, appearing with her

on public platforms and sup-ported her claims that many of

the allegations made against

In five days of hearings, the commission has been told by

many witnesses that Mrs

Mandela was present when

Stompie Moeketsi Seipei and

four other young activists were abducted and assaulted

at her home. Witnesses have

Mr Erasmus said that he

had planted disinformation in

the international media that

Mrs Mandela and her daugh-

ter were nymphomaniaes and

Mandeial had personally

responsible for spreading in-

formation that the ANC had

lost control of local defence

units and that Mr Mandela

was going senile. In evidence,

Superintendent John McPher-

also accused her of murder.

her are false.

Mr Erasmus said he had recruited an agent in Glas-gow, Harvey Ward, a former head of the Rhodesian Broadcasting Corporation during UDI, who "immediately gave Stratcom Johannesburg an international capability". "Within days I was forward-

ing masses of Stratcom material to him. This agent had a mass of conservative contacts internationally, including politicians, journalists, intelligence contacts and so on. Almost immediately, dirt on the ANC - including matters relating to Mrs Mandela's activities - began to appear in

> authorised the necklace method [of killing alleged informers] which I believe was widely reported internationally." Mr Erasmus told The Times outside the hearing that he had had particular success in planting information among British Tories, who lapped up everything we sent them without even running the slightest check". He said he was also

Desmond Tutu during a break in yesterday's hearing



Winnie Madikizela-Mandela wiping away a tear during the testimony yesterday of a youth who described his torture at the hands of the police during the apartheid era

Stratcom, apologised to jour-nalist Fred Bridgland for having named him as a "friendly

Mr Bridgland is the author

son, who was in charge of in which Katiza Cebekhulu, a another journalist. Mr Eraswitness to the commission, accused Mrs Mandela of stabbing Stompie in 1988. Mr McPherson said he had made an "honest mistake" in confusof Katiza's Journey, the book ing Mr Bridgland with

mus was asked outside the hearing if he remembered any particular successes. He cited a 1991 leading article in The Times, "Get Your House in

**NEWS IN** 

ADIL BRADLOW / RELITERS

### Ian Smith's farm to

Harare: A farm owned by lan Prime Minister, is among 1,500 properties earmarked for confiscation and redistribution among blacks tlan

be seized

Raath writes).

The list of properties includes some of the biggest and most sophisticated estates accounting for a large proportion of commercial output.

### Kinshasa clashes

Kinshasa: At least 11 people were reported killed in shooting between soldiers in the grounds of President Kabila's residence and elsewhere in the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo. (AFP)

### Cook gold plea

Warsaw: Robin Cook called on countries attending next week's Nazi gold conference to support Britain's plan to hand over the remaining 5.5 tonnes to a fund run by Jewish nongovernment organisations.

### Graves inquiry

Islamabad: The United Nations is considering sending a team to northern Afghanistan to investigate mass graves which local people have said may contain as many as 2,000 bodies. (Reuters)

### Old flame

Beijing: China has put out a coalbed fire which had been burning in the northwestern region of Xinjiang for more than 400 years since spontaneously igniting in 1560, a newspaper reported. (Reuters)

### Death sentence

Ankara: A Turkish security court sentenced 33 Muslim activists to death for their part in an Islamist riot and arson attack in 1993 in which dozens of people were killed. An appeal is likely. (Reuters)

### Mother sued

Rome: Paolo Tonelli, 38, of Mestre, a Venetian suburb, is suing for damages because his mother "failed to consult him" before remarrying when he was 20, causing him "lasting sychological harm".

### Pro-Sharif mob storms Pakistan Supreme Court

AND ZAHLD HUSSAIN IN ISLAMABAD

THOUSANDS of slogan-chanting supporters of Nawaz Sharif, the Pakistani Prime Minister, yesterday stormed the Supreme Court in an attempt to force adjournment of his trial of on contempt charges.

The crowd, led by MPs of the

the building and abused Sajjad Eli Shah, the Chief Justice, who was presiding over the case. Mr Sharif has been charged with making slanderous remarks against the Chief Justice last month. If found guilty he could face disqualification from office, leaving the army as the only credible centre of power.

Police stood by and watched the mob ransacking the building. A THE coalition Government in India effectively collapsed last night after the Congress Party announced it was withdrawing support (Christopher Thomas writes). Inder Kumar Gujral, the Prime Minister, was expected to submit his resignation later to President Narayanan.

ordered not to interfere. Mr Chief Justice Shah hurriedly adjourned the proceedings and the judges moved to their chambers as the crowd reached s nandemo-

nium in the court as the mob attacked journalists and lawyers. A former Attorney-General was manhandled. "We cannot do anything until we get

constitutional battle with the Prime Minister over the appointment of Pakistan's fragile democracy is in tatters and the army, which would

The Chief Justice is locked in a

watching with mounting alarm.

Mob power is a familiar tactic in Pakistan: for politicians to use it against the respected Supreme Court

like to stay outside the fray, is



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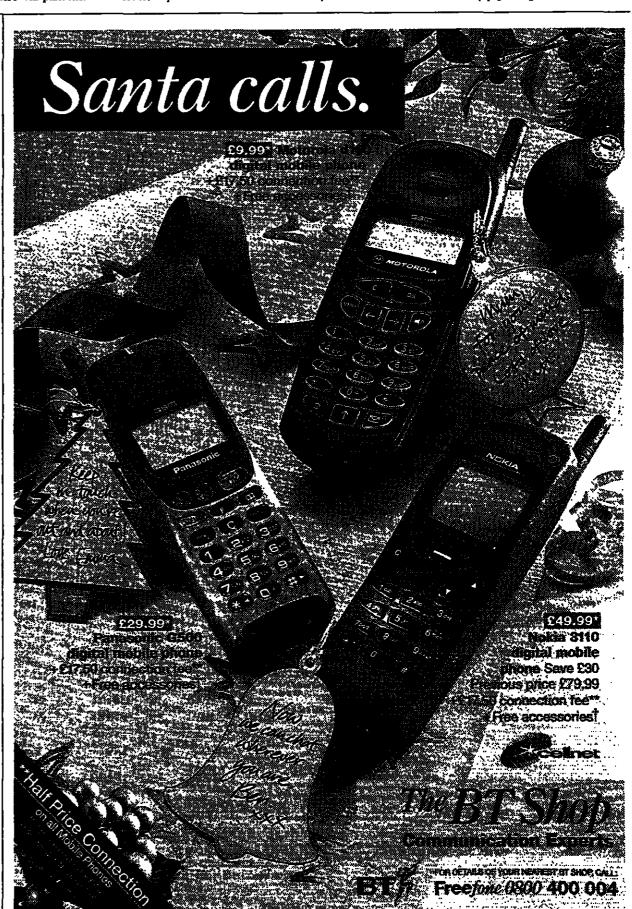
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Clinton? He's got real problems, like you and me. He's runnin' out of money. His wife's a pain. All his triends are goin to jail. If Clinton spent a \$100 bill, someone would put it up to the light. It's almost as if we have a black President.

These are the musings of Chris Rock, a comedian described by The New York Times recently as "probably the funniest and smartest comedian working today in America".

Rock, a 31-year-old New Yorker, styles himself as an requal opportunities offender", which means that he is rude about everyone, everything, and every race particularly blacks. He has often said that blacks are

more racist than whites,

"because black people even

Bill Cosby, the paterfamili-as of all blacks in showbusiness, will not speak to him, so unamused is he by Rock's roughshod irreverence. Marion Barry, Washington's Mayor, will not speak to him either, because Rock once quipped, at the time of the Million Man March on the capital, that

Parents on gang alert

AFTER reports that children as young as six are being recruited by gangs such as The Bloods, the city's police this week published A Parent's Guide to Gang Identification. Parents are enjoined to check children's arms for burn marks and gang motifs; make sure they wear nothing to school but their uniform: and search bags and bedrooms for weapons. Clearly, it is as hard to be a parent here as it is to be a child.

TUNKU VARADARAJAN'S

"even in our finest hour, we had a crack-head on stage". Not surprisingly, the Rev Al Sharpton, the firebrand black leader from New York, also detests Rock, as does

O. J. Simpson, whom he has pilloried mercilessly. Writing about Simpson's acquittal in his recently published book of comedic philosophy, Rock This!, Rock declared: "I ain't seen white people that mad since they cancelled M\*A\*S\*H."

The tiny comedian is being hailed here as the new Eddie Murphy, a title from which he tries to distance himself. True. Murphy was Rock's mentor, and still is his biggest fan, but the new kid on the block has a newer, rawer tale to tell. He's Chris Rock, and already worth several million.



Chris Rock, the self-styled equal opportunities offender, speaking at a press conference earlier this year during nominations for the 1997 MTV awards

### Mayor puts a stop to bus adverts

LAST week, New York magazine thought that it had the perfect publicity banner. Scores of city buses were set to roll out of their garages with a commercial message painted on their sides, declaring the magazine to be "Possibly the only thing in New York Rudy hasn't taken credit for".

However, the Rudy in question. Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, was so angered by this less-majeste that he leaned on the bus company to pull the offending ads. Meekly, the company complied.

Now New York has sued Mr Giuliani, saying that its

### Obscurity on a plate

THERE should be a prize for anyone who can comprehend this gift idea, revealed recently in the New York version of Time Out: "Jeff Koons limited edition plate. Looking for that special tchotchke? Well, look no further than this Koons multiple. This silvery metal plate is the backdrop for a balloon-animal poodle. sculpted in full relief." Price? \$450.

freedom of expression has been curtailed unlawfully. The Mayor countered: "If they want to take me and use me to sell their magazine, they have to get my permission." The trial begins soon. ☐ A 66-year-old businessman was honoured here recently by the Irish-American community. Charles Feeney, a philanthropist, has donated \$610 million to universities. medical centres and "others in need. This last category. however, is not as innocuous as it seems. Mr Feeney fi-nances the Washington office of Sinn Fein.

Thanksgiving Day this week was made more festive by news that wild turkeys had returned to New York for the first time since some reckon - the War of

Independence. Almost as surprising as their return is their choice of borough. They have picked a park in the Bronx, New York's toughest and arguably least turkey-friendly area. One woman said: "We've got hoods and pushers and real bad-ass people here. And we now got turkeys. I tell you, the Bronx is one helluva place!"

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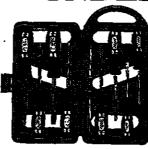
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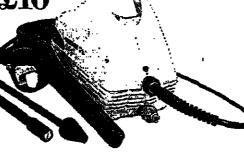
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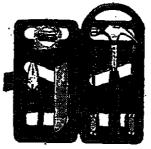
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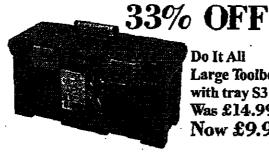




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### Inquiry mars mass Moonie blessing

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON .

THE Rev Sun Myung Moon's plans for thousands of couples to attend a marriage blessing ceremony in Washington today has struck a jarring note. One of Mr Moon's closest aides bought a full-page ad-

vertisement in The Washington Post yesterday to decry the newspaper's investigation of Mr Moon's Unification Church and its many business offshoots.

The attack was in contrast to the sweetness and joy that Mr. Moon and his aides were hoping to spread with their ceremony, which will be conducted in a football stadium. Invitations have gone to

5,000 couples to "Blessing '97" to reaffirm their vows. Yesterday the organisers set out chairs on the pitch for bout 2,500 couples who will take their wedding vows for the first time. 🕠

Mr Moon has conducted other mass weddings and, as before, in many cases he will have matched church members who have never met or barely know each other.

The organisers claimed that 3.6 million couples in more than 50 countries were expected to participate in the mar-riage rededication ceremony by satellite link. The singer Whitney Houston will reportedly receive more than \$1 million (£600,000) for a 45-minute appearance at the festivities.



Moon: invitations to 35,000 couples

The advertisement in the Post accused the newspaper of "tabloid sensationalism at its worst" and of having a "welldeserved reputation for arrogantly disdaining traditional family values and genuine

religious beliefs". . It was a bold decision for the Post to run the attack on itself. the more so because it was levelled by Dong Moon Joo, who is president of The Washington Times. The latter is amuch smaller rival of the Post. but is owned by the Unification Church. In a series on the "Moonies", the Post quoted Mr Moon as saying that he had spent more than \$1 billion in subsidies for the Washington Times over 15 years.

In the advert, Mr Dong said that the Post had grossly exaggerated the extent of the

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LEFT TO FREEZE Yordan, 1½, already Unourished could die from cold and hunger reaches him now. With No Money To Feed The Children

No Money To Heat The Orphanages Bulgaria is a country in the midst of a serious economic crisis. Unless urgent help is sent, thousands of children will suffer tetribly this winter.

There is little money to heat the orphanages. Orphanage Directors are having to beg for food from local villages and rarely know where the next meal is coming from. In some areas children, like Yordan, are going hungry and the cold could prove fatal for many children this winter. Without aid this could be catastrophic for Bulgaria's orphanage children.

The European Children's Trust, sister charity of The Romanian Orphanage Trust, is ready to distribute emergency food packs, clothes and fuel to the orphanages in most need. Your gift today will save lives and bring hope.

£28 could buy enough emergency food packs to feed 20 orphanage children for a week or heat an orphanage for 3 days.

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The bursting of the Britpop bubble

Album sales have slumped and the

music industry is looking for a new

saviour, reports Carol Midgley

BRITPOP, the musical phenomenon that made Britain cool again, may be breathing its last. Figures show that album sales in Britain have fallen for the third successive quarter, spelling the end of one of the industry's biggest

The industry, say experts, has gorged on Britpop and the bubble has burst. Record companies are now searching for the pretender to its crown. Although the latest quarter-

figures from the British Phonographic Industry show an 8 per cent rise in all record sales compared with the same period in 1996, the picture is not so rosy. Three quarters of that increase is accounted for solely by Candle in the Wind, Elton John's tribute single to Diana, Princess of Wales, which sold 5.3 million copies around the world.

Album sales for the third cuarter total-

led £218 mil-£230,000 fewer than in the corresponding quar-ter of 1996, lease of highly acclaimed albums from the Prodigy and Oasis. Retailers were counting on Oasis's Be Here Now to revive the

market after a poor summer. It sold a record 639,000 copies within three days of its release in August but it could not stop average

stunning success of the band's previous album What's the Story (Morning Glory)?, which sold 3.3 million copies. Britpop was popularly de-fined by such bands as Oasis, Blur, Pulp and Suede. Others, such as the Liverpool band Cast, have seen disappointing sales for their second album, Mother Nature Calls, after the huge success of their debut. All Change. On the more populist front, the spec-

critics doubt it will achieve the

tacularly hyped Spiceworld, the latest Spice Girls album, has been a critical flop and sales have been lacklustre. More underlying pressures are also bein pop's flagging fortunes. Singles are now plugged so many weeks in advance that, by the time they go on sale, everyone has heard them and they fall out of the charts quickly. In the 1970s and 1980s, singles would stay in the charts for up to 20

weeks. Halving the price of CD singles to £1.99 in their first week of sale is now standard practice but it often loses money for the record companies and has created a glut of "one-hit wonders".

The Radio 1 disc jockey Steve Lamaco said: "We are reaching the end of a cycle with Britpop. We hadn't seen anything like it in years and the all considered co." we all overdosed on it, espe-cially the music industry. It was rather like in the Sixies. when any band in a suit from Liverpool would be signed. But it is like any natural cycle

the tide has to go out before it can come in again with something new."

Industry watchers said the recent sales boom could not realistically have been maintained. Selina Webb, editor of Music Week, said: "The growth has certainly slowed right down, but it is still way

up on a few years ago. Last sion. I don't think we ex-pected Britpop to be around for ever. But apting. The latest Sleeper album has moved on from Britpop sound. Blur has moved its sound

on. We now have a band like the Verve doing fantasticaly well. They are more musically sophisticated than Britpop, but it was Britpop that opened

Many believe it will be several years before Britain enjoys the salad days of 1996, when record sales increased by 6 per cent to £1.08 billion. But a new pretender to Britpop's crown is on its way in Big Beat, guitar-led dance music from bands such as the Propellerheads and the Chemical Brothers.

"Next year I can see two things happening." Lamacq said. "One, there will be a growth in commercial 'antipop' sounds like Belle and Sebastian and, two, Britpop fans will get into Big Beat.

"If there is a crisis at the music industry has been getting out of control. There are too many labels releasing too many records. Every time music goes overground, it has to go underground again for a while to come up with something different."



The enduring names in the pop world are more likely to evoke Christmas spirit than any number of seasonal one-hit wonders, according to The Guinness Book of British Hit Singles (Richard Duce writes). Researchers asked 1,200 people which tunes makes them think of the festive season and 20 per cent answered Merry Xmas Everbody by Slade. The Christmas No I of last year, Two Become One, by the Spice Girls, received only I per

The "mistletoe" top ten is: 1. Merry Xmas Everybody (Slade), 2. White Christmas (Bing Crosby), 3. Do They Know It's Christmas (Band Aid), 4. Last Christmas (Whami), 5. Happy Christmas (War is Over) (John Lennon), 6. Mistletoe and Wine (Cliff Richard), 7. I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day (Wizzard), 8. Jingle Bells (Frank Sinatra) 9. Fairytale of New York (The Pogues), 10. Silent Night (Simon and Garfunkel)







The sound of 1998: the long-awaited Propellerheads debut album will be big-beat dance music

### Songs for the soul, not for the sales list

By CHARLIE PORTER

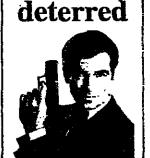
MANY of the old Britpop mob will release new albums next year including Pulp, Space and Shed Seven but it will be a surpise if any capture hearts, minds and sales as they did in the mid-1990s. The first two big albums of 1998 are

pure dance music. Propellerheads bring out their long awaited debut album at the end of January, while a couple of weeks earlier the French duo Air release an exquisite mix of house and blues on a much-varieted LP called Moon Safari. Black singers have finally gained an

equal footing in the charts. The urban American mix of hip-hop and soul, best beard on Puff Daddy's I'll Be Missing You, will become the dominant sound.

There are still guitar bands starting up. One of the most-watched will be the Unbelievable Truth, but they are unlikely to achieve Oasis-like sales - their music is too intelligent. Indeed most of the new British talent don't care for attempts at commercial success.

Glasgow's young band Mogwai will continue to gain support, as will Arab Strap and the Delgados, two of the best bands in Britain with none of the THE SUNDAY TIMES Shaken but not

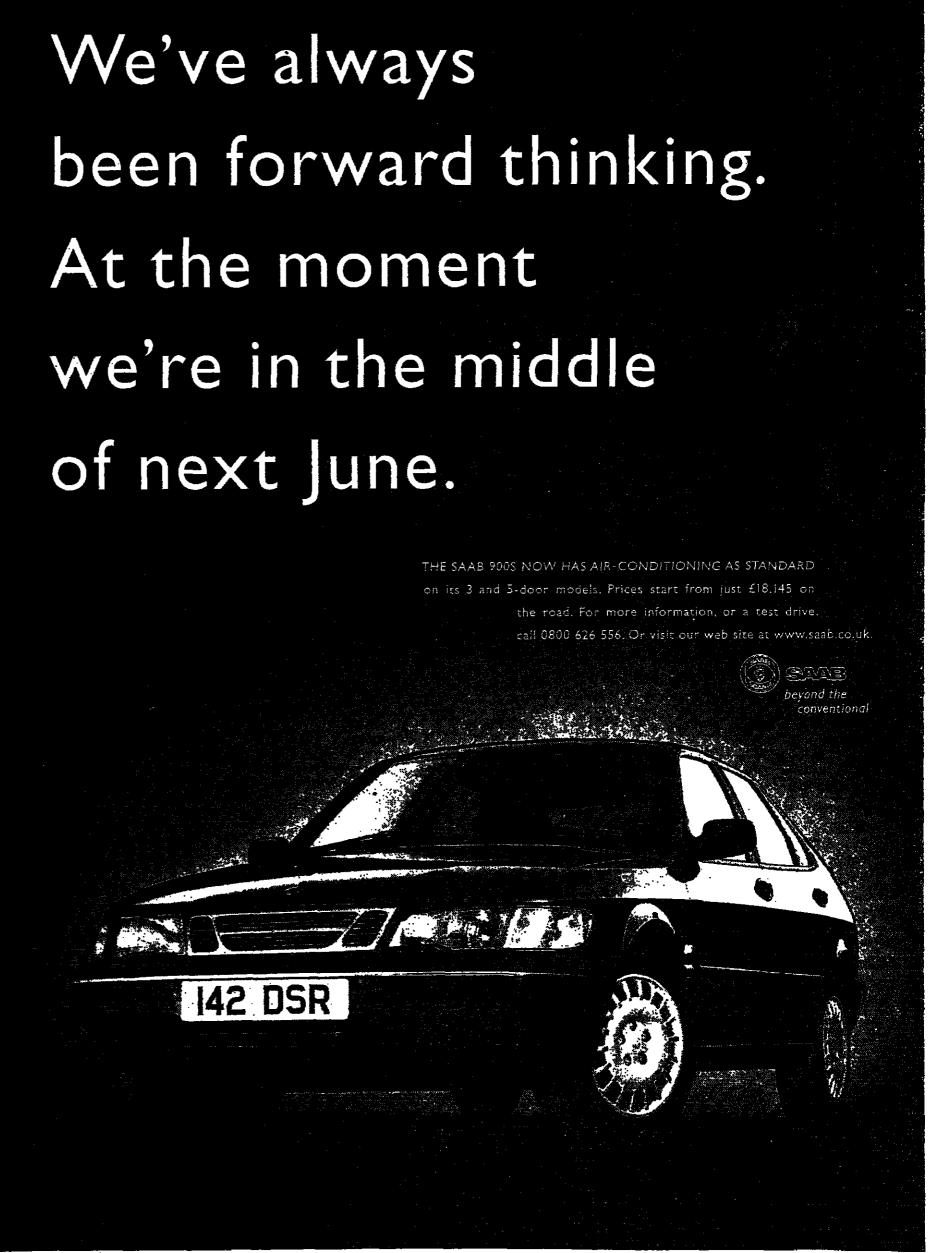


shooting from the lip before he fired a shot on screen. His judgment, passed two weeks before filming started, helped swing the film away from disaster. He read the

How backstage feuding almost killed the new Bond movie. Culture, The Sunday

script and succinctly

declared: It's s\*\*\*



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Fairytale start: Earl and Countess Spencer embrace on their wedding day

Digital Mobile Phone

# The earl ponders his 'big miscalculation'

THE humiliation Earl Spen-cer has suffered in a Cape Town court all this week is described by those closest to him as "the greatest miscalculation of his life".

As he spends the weekend in South Africa pondering the wisdom of pursuing this case against his estranged wife, Countess Spencer, he has recognised too late that he has only himself to blame for the embarrassment.

Legal advisers and friends warned him not to wrangle with his wife in court because of the damage it would do to his reputation - so enhanced by his words at the funeral of his sister, Diana, Princess of Wales. His vilification of the tabloid press and barely disguised attack on the attitude of the Royal Family to his sister earned him almost heroic status for the first time in his

Never a popular figure in Britain, his pledge in Westminster Abbey to honour his sister's memory by taking a hand in the upbringing of Princes William and Harry was applauded even by the newspapers he regarded as his enemy. Even Tony Blair was asking to consult him. His circle of friends say that,

Legal advisers and friends warned Earl Spencer not to wrangle with his wife in a Cape Town court, but he took no notice of them, Daniel McGrory reports

dence. Lord Spencer decided to bring his four-year separa-tion from his wife to a formal end as quickly as possible.

One said: "It was as if he

wanted to start afresh - a new Charles Spencer. But his usual desire to have his own way has got the better of him."

Lawyers who had read Lady Spencer's affidavit told him that in 28 pages she destroys the image of him as a defender of family values and privacy and instead portrays the man she married in 1989 as a drunken, callous womaniser.

Typically, Lord Spencer, 33, ignored all the advice and stubbornly refused to increase his £310,000 cash offer to the mother of his four children, which she has dismissed privately as "damned mean"

"Charlie felt he was being bullied and blackmailed into a deal," his friend added. "Remember, this is a man used to getting his own way, particu-

regards as timid. Victoria is so paranoid about publicity and revealing anything about her private life he was sure she would panic on the courtroom

steps.
"His biggest miscalculation was how strong Victoria has become and how badly she

the infidelities and cruelties. She also thinks he is being mean over the money.

"He was the one who wanted the marriage ended and he was warned going to London might cost him more money. but at least all their dirty linen could not have been reported

Her lawyers confessed their astonishment that the Spencer legal team had not offered them an improved last-minute financial deal, along with a order on Lady gagging Spencer

One lawyer said: "He must have known the press that he savaged at Diana's funeral would relish their chance to

get him." Again Lord Spencer had underestimated a foe, telling friends that the tabloid press would be so chastened after the Princess's death that they



Lady Spencer, flanked by her legal team, at the Supreme Court in Cape Town

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5 SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29 16

### THE SPENCER DIVORCE





Althorp, left, the Spencer family home in Northamptonshire and, right, Lord Spencer's home in the Cape Town suburb of Constantia

10ft away on the same wooden

bench. She refused to look at

it." his friend said.

ceedings rather than risk further public condemnation. He also underrated the desire for vengeance of his former mistress, Chantal Collopy, who, unknown to him, had secretly struck up a friendship with Lady Spencer and, worse, had provided damning ammunition for her lawyers.

Realisation of his mistakes dawned on Monday morning as he strolled through the sunshine to the High Court in Cape Town to find his wife and mistress, all smiles, walking into the oak-pannelled Lord Spencer could only comfort himself with the thought that this hearing was merely to decide whether their divorce should be settled in South Africa, as he wants, or London, where Lady Spencer believes she can expect a settlement nearer the £3.5 mil-

lion she is demanding.

He was to be proved wrong again. Jeremy Gauntlett, Lady Spencer's impressive barris ter, persuaded the judge that Lord Spencer's conduct during the marriage was crucial

The knew Victoria had

sticks, no matter what he says and does now." His public discomfort has been followed with wry amusement by neighbours in the fashionable Cape Town suburb of Constantia, who have long regarded him as too

have his day in court.

named three of his affairs, but social events and is criticised he was genuinely stunned when the lawyer blurted our locally for refusing endless invitations. He prefers to rethat he had up to 12 mistressmain with his present comes. That wasn't in her affidapanion, Josie Borain, a model, in what by Constantia stan-dards is a modest home on the vit. It was the first he heard of Lord Spencer gaped open-mouthed at his wife who sat Tarrystone House estate, a half-hour drive from the

is claim that he After that first morning. wants the divorce settled in South Charles faced a dilemma. His reputation was damaged and he felt the only resort to clear Africa because he regards that country as home his name and refute what he is similarly scorned by neighinsists are baseless lies was to bours, who believe it has never been more than a temporary The gamble is that Victoria's side can, in the meanexile to avoid the British press. The view is that Lord Spencer time, throw so much dirt it is anxious to agree a financial settlement before returning to

centre of the city.

mer will be among Britain's great tourist attractions. The case had to be postponed because of his sister's death and there was surprise in the Cape at Lord Spencer's anxiety to expedite the matter.

Althorp, which by next sum-

One legal source said: "We had expected this to stay on the books for an age."

Lady Spencer assumed that her husband would be spending more time in Britain, not only to tend to Althorp and prepare for the summer opening to the purile but also, as the "blood relation" of the late Princess, to take a hand in his royal nephews' upbringing.

She had been told by her lawyers to expect the offer of a last-moment senlement. One source said she was reluctant to consider that now "because there is so much blood on the

After the first day's nearing, on Monday, the shaken Spencer team held a hurried meeting at his lawyers' office to review their tactics.

Lord Spencer was angry that a four-page nandwritten letter he sent to Mrs Collopy was read out in court in which he describes himself as "vicious, cruel and a bully

Continued on page 18, col 3



The Spencers leave St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, with their twin daughters in 1992



Lord Spencer at the Supreme Court in Cape Town

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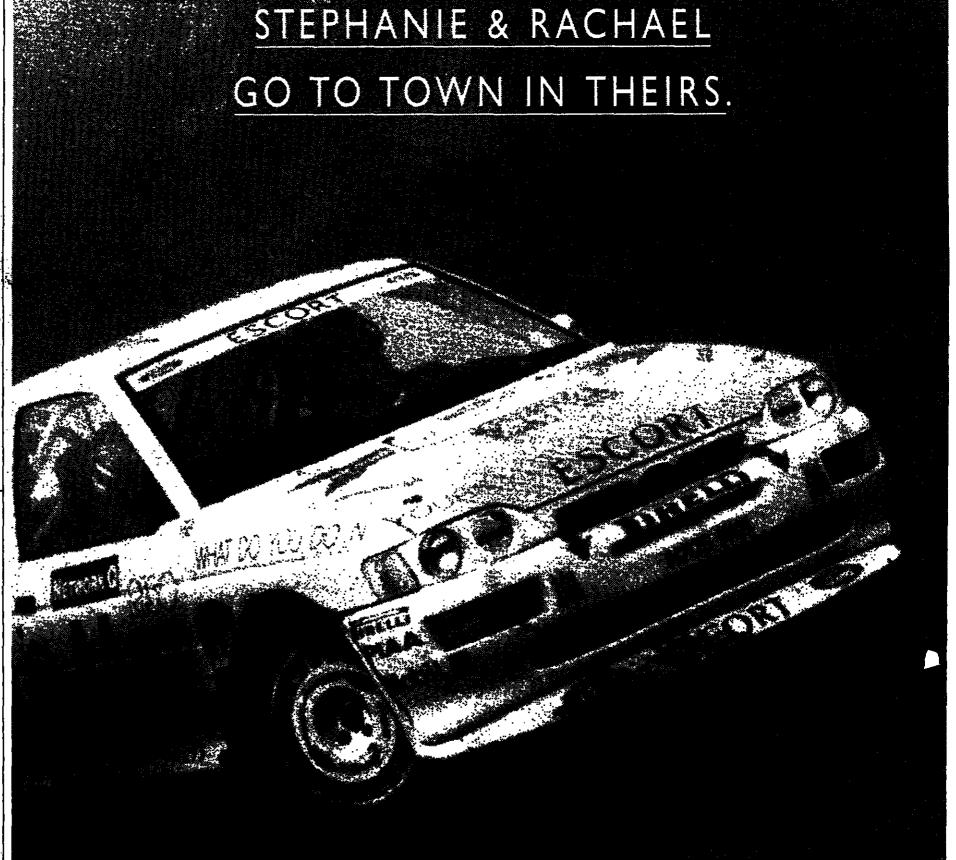
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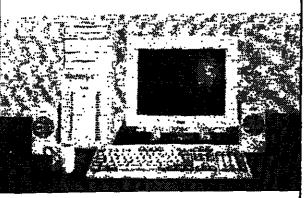
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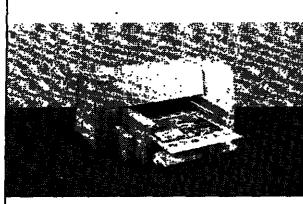
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Earl Spencer speaks at his sister's funeral service

Continued from page 17 towards his wife. The deci-sion was taken that he was in too deep, and he resolved to

see it through. The second day was no better for him. Mrs Collopy, 27, allegedly sold their correspondence, which was published in various tabloid newspapers, describing how he had "ruined" her life. She also disclosed how their affair had been going on for six months before the peer's separation. He was similarly powerless to stop his former mistress giving press interviews, which she could not have done had he agreed to a hearing in London.

His reply was for his yers to tell the judge that Lady Spencer could not handle any large financial settlement. Lord Spencer went so far in his affidavit as to allege that she was so damaged psycho-logically she would spend it on drugs. Dressed in a tight-fitting black short skirt that revealed her model figure, which had been restored by months of successful therapy and medical treatment, Lady Spencer smiled, knowing her appearance gave the lie to the



Borain: earl's companion

accusation that she was still a disturbed bulimic,

One of her lawyers said: "That was a cheap shot by Spencer and it backfired." By the third day, he felt the vagaries of South African law were conspiring against him. Lady Spencer's affidavits. which could never have been seen outside any British court-

room, became public. She

reveals in them how scared she was of his alleged drunken rages. She also claims that he had stopped her from attending his sister's funeral. This was a pointed reminder that Lord Spencer owes his international fame entirely to Diana. Princess of Wales, and of how his sister's position was useful to him when he left Oxford

newspapers he now says he despises. A friend said: "He will never admit to it, but he has an addiction to publicity. He says he hates being in the press and part of him does, but, perversely, he loves it at the same time. He recognises that the high profile also helps him in

and worked as a reporter for

American television and for

lots of ways." Lord Spencer also found himself fighting a second legal battle in Court 16 next door to stop local newspapers covering his infidelities, only to drop the case soon afterwards. Last night it was understood that the two sides will use this weekend to explore ways to

thrash out some kind of truce.

Simon Jenkins, page 22

### Earl's literary style brought to book •

مِكذا من رلامل

If sounds solpish, but you are energthing I need. Tou make we feel loved and valued, an equal yet uthinately your man, and you make me laugh, make me happy. I have to belond my quest for happiness — which I know, despite your reservations, would lead to my making you happy — against my duty to my children, and my wife.

### Influence of bestseller can be seen in affair, Sandra Parsons writes

WHAT must M. Scott Peck be making of the sorry Spencer v Spencer saga? In his nowinfamous letter to his then mistress Chantal Collopy, Earl Spencer revealed himself to have joined the massed ranks of the angst-ridden (Cher and Glenn Close among them) who have read Peck's seminal work. The Road Less Travelled.

Peck, a psychiatrist who lives in Connecticut, wrote it in 1978, when he was 40. It was his first book (he has since written ten more) and is in the Guinness Book of Records as the bestselling non-fiction book ever, excluding the Bible.

Thanks to Dr Peck", wrote the earl to his mistress, "we both know the limitations of the 'hearts and flowers' stage, but we both know what lies beyond that."

Doubtless it was Ms Collopy who persuaded her lover to read the book. It tends to be women who buy it. give it to their female friends, and urge the men in their lives to

please please read it.
The book's key theme is that it is only when two people fall out of romantic love that the real work of love - doing your best for somebody even when you do not feel loving -But although the earl may have read Peck, he clearly has

not absorbed his message His writing is full of phrases such as "I have to" and "I can't." According to The Road Less Travelled, these reveal him to be suffering from a "character disorder". In conflict, character disordered people assume the world is at fault. Neurotics, by

phrases are "I ought to" and I shouldn't. The earl informs

contrast, always assume they

are at fault. Their favourite



M.SCOTT PECK

Ms Collopy and the book that inspired the earl's letter

Collopy that, even though she has reservations, he knows he can make her happy. Part of his problem is his immature wife, who cannot deal with his own "strong character". He is glad that Chantal is "down". as it means she is "taking the whole matter very seriously". The pressure is on, he tells

viduals tend to form only writes. "It is not so much that

ting themselves as that they basically do not understand what commitment is all about. Because their parents failed to commit themselves to them as children in any meaningful way, they grew up without experience of commitment.

Perhaps Lord Spencer should read Peck again. On current evidence, his memory retention seems to have extended only to the book's

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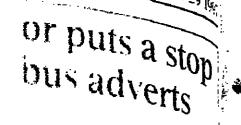
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'Devil". preferring to speak of the "unhappiness", "suffering" and "confusion" of those who come to see him

# Happy to do battle with forces of evil

FOR a man who spends most of his waking hours casting out demons, the exorcist of Notre Dame has a devil of a

sense of humour.
Father Claude Nicolas, qualified psychologist, priest, ecclesiastical judge and resident exorcist at the great medieval cathedral in Paris, pressible expressibles. merrily remembers the time when a polite, middle-aged woman came to him complaining she was bearing satanic voices in her head.

"In the middle of our talk, I asked her whether she was still hearing the voices and what they were saying. She looked embarrassed. They just told me that you are a complete idiot," she replied." Recalling the incident this week, the portly and rubicund Father Nicolas shook with laughter, resembling more a Gallic version of Friar Tuck than France's most noted expurgator of evil spirits.

Father Nicolas is one of 80 exorcists recognised by the Roman Catholic Church in France. As the millennium approaches, the demand for exorcisms is steadily growing, a product of social, cultural and economic dislocation, he says, and the rise of activity

The number of people wanting exorcism is about five times what it was 20 years Ben Macintyre

reports how Father Nicolas helps unhappy souls in Paris

chambers beneath the cloister eaves overlooking Notre Dame. About 2,000 people consult an exorcist every year in the Paris region alone. On a single day, Father Nicolas can expect to see up to six people who believe they are pos-sessed, in one way or another. by evil. The priest, who has just published a book, The Demon of Anguish, steers clear of terms such as "possession" and "Devil", preferring instead to speak of the "unhappiness", "suffering" and "confusion" of those who come to him needing help.
Notre Dame, thanks to Vic-

tor Hugo and his hunchback, may be a byword for Gothic horror, but Father Nicolas laughs off the Hollywood image of exorcism. After hearing an individual's problems, he usually merely places his hands on his or her head and recites a short exorcism prayer. In severe cases, he may

health professional. "You do not want to do anything too dramatic," he says, waving his arms and grinning. "That can just make things worse. It is not like The Exorcist, you

For some reason it is faintly disquieting to discover that the exorcist of Notre Dame has seen the 1973 film, but that is only one of the unexpected contrasts in a man at once a priest and a psychologist, both worldly and believing, jovial and deadly earnest. He recalls with deep scepticism the most dramatic case he witnessed. "She was about 40 years old and she had the lot: scratches were appearing on her arms; she was having visions, screaming. I think she was a 100 per cent hysteric."

On the other hand, Father Nicolas believes what he sees. He recounts, for example, the occasion when a young woman came to his rooms claiming to be bewitched. Immediately, all the light bulbs exploded. The woman apologised profusely, insisting there was a curse on her. "I tried to reassure her: 'Look, the light on the radiator is still working'. No sooner had I said the words than that light bulb popped too, and off went

the radiator."

The people who come to Notre Dame seeking exorcism are from all social groups, he

Father Claude Nicolas at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, where he conducts many of his exorcisms

says. About a third are African; many are middle-class French professionals, more men than women, the largest age-group 30 to 40, some highly educated and all suffering deep spiritual anxiety.

They are very varied. I

cannot say that someone is 10 per cent genuinely possessed, 5 per cent hysterical. 15 per cent the product of their social or cultural mileu and so on. There is always a mixture. It is not for me to decide."

The key measure, he says, is that after consulting him and being exorcised, many people are reassured and grateful. He writes in his book: "They have lost their confidence.

anguish must be 'exorcised' in order to see clearly, with the vision of Christ, who is the victor over all evil. There are so many charlatans out there, false exorcists looking for money, exploiting misery. This book is an attempt to expose them."

Ask Father Nicolas whether he has directly encountered the Devil himself and he grows suddenly quiet and serious, replying with another story: "A young Congolese man, who had a doctorate from the Sorbonne, came to me in deep distress, saving he had joined two cults and needed confession and exor-

cism. The moment I put my

hand on his forehead he gave a cry and fell unconscious. When he came to, he was beaming, radiant and went away happy."
Father Nicolas pauses.

Was that the Devil? Was that a profound religious experience linked to his culture? I don't know. But in any case, he is a believer. He asked for

liberation, which worked. That is enough." Father Nicolas predicts that demand for his expertise will rise sharply in the next few years, given the increasing spiritual confusion at the fin de siècle, deepening social problems in France and greater willingness by people to address their own

### Highest homes in roof of the world

By BEN MACINTYRE

A JOINT Franco-British exploration team has discovered what are believed to be the world's highest human homes, beehive-shaped huts in the barren "empty quarter"

of Tibet. The ancient houses, built out of adobe mud bricks on the Changthang plain at an average altitude of 16,000ft. had been overlooked by the tiny handful of Europeans to have visited the region, according to Michel Peissel. who recently travelled to the area with fellow explorer Sebastian Guinness, of the brewing family. They came across the mud

houses during a 2,000-mile journey along the region's ancient salt routes.

Dr Peissel said that the buildings were built as winter shelters by Tibet's northernmost nomads, the Sumpa and Seng-go tribes, and had been missed by earlier adventurers who spoke no Tibetan or mistook them for Buddhist

The structures show Persian influences from prehistoric times and may be remnants of the ancient pre-Buddhist kingdom of Shang Shung, which scholars have been seeking for more than a century. The northern plains of Tibet are the highest and one of the coldest regions in the world, and the buildings have been built so as to retain maximum warmth from a fire fuelled by yak or sheep dung. Their vaulted ceilings are unknown in the rest of Tibet. In the summer the nomads live in yak-hair tents.

Dr Peissel presented his discovery to the International Symposium on Tibetan Architecture in Paris yesterday. He said the buildings might indicate that the earliest settlers of Tibet came from the West and not from the East as previously supposed.



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### PC PCs order of the day in Germany

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

FLAT-CHESTED Hispaniclooking car thieves have been given a breathing space by a new ruling in Germany's political-correctness revolution which obliges police officers to avoid all sexually-suggestive and ethnic adjectives in crime

They will no longer be able to describe suspects as "full-bosomed" or "flat-chested". the term "negroid" is to be replaced by "African", and the word "Mediterranean" as a description of a swarthy type is to be dropped. Nobody can be described as having "Slavic" looks, and references to some regional accents are now regarded as off-limits.

The overhaul of the police vocabulary is in response to complaints by a church group, which said police reports "were using concepts that evoked Nazi racial ideology". Since individual police officers have been accused in the past of racism and sexism. Germany's regional interior ministers yesterday decided that it was time to clean up police language.

Bavaria, the region with the best crime-detection figures in Germany, is refusing to take part in the linguistic purge. Liberal police officers say the changes will make little impact on detection rates since busts can be altered by plastic surgery. Moreover, an adjective such as "negroid" was not only racist, but also very vague. Even so, some police sources believe that detection may be slowed down: 18 of the 1.500 female suspects on the Stuttgart police computer, for example, are currently described as "full-bosomed".

Political correctness has been rapidly changing the German language, and, above all, influencing television and politics. It has, as in other countries, changed traditional job descriptions and product names. For example, a creamfilled chocolate that used to be known in Germany as a "Negro's Kiss" is now a "Chocolate-Cream Kiss".

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# Islanders ready for Pacific evacuation

AN EVACUATION plan is being drawn up by a group of Pacific islands after research showing that global warming and rising sea levels will make

The Marshall Islands are believed to be the first of a string of low-lying Pacific and Caribbean states to consider such drastic action.

But the islands - named by William Marshall. a 18thcentury British naval captain. sailing by on the Scarborough in 1788 with convicts en route to New South Wales - are unlikely to be the last. Scientists predict that many small island states may be totally or partially swamped by rising sea levels and increased storm

News of the evacuation plans comes on the eve of the climate conference starting in

Espen Ronneberg, a mem-

ber of the Marshall Islands mission to the United Nations, said: "The research has identified migration or evacuation as a worst-case scenario but one which, in the light of the scientific evidence on climate

change, we should pursue." The islands, which rely on fishing, tourism and coconuts, are vulnerable because they are on average just 6ft above sea level with the highest point being Likiep atoll at almost

time in the next century 80 per cent of the main island and capital will be under the waves. A string of options are being studied, including the purchase of a high-lying island elsewhere, able to accomthe Marshalls' 56,000 citizens.

Studies indicate that some

The islands also have a special treaty with the United States which means that some of the refugees from environmental change might find a haven there.

"But whether the agreement will be honoured when our country disappears under the waves is anybody's guess."

said Mr Ronneberg. The Marshall Islands, 29 atolls and 1,225 islets scattered over three quarters of a million square miles of ocean, is one of some 20 "frontline states" whose very existence is threatened by the build-up of pollution, such as carbon dioxide, in the atmosphere.

Others include the Maldives, the Cook Islands, Nauru, Kiribati (the former Gilbert Islands), the Seychelles, Antigua and Barbuda and the Federated States of Micronesia. They have banded together into the Association of Small Island States (Aosis) to lobby the industrialised nations to back a 20 per

Global warming

threatens to swamp a string of atolls and

create a refugee

crisis, writes Nick Nuttall

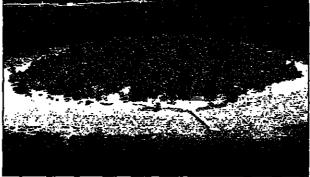
cent cut in carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gasses. Mr Ronneberg said: "We think this is a modest figure given the threats we face. The scientists tell us we need a 60 per cent cut just to stabilise carbon dioxide emissions. But we realise this cannot be achieved

Dr Iftikhar Ayaz, the British-based honorary consul for Tuvalu, formerly the Ellis Islands, said that curbing emissions to save such nations was a crucial human rights

"These people have a right to their land. It would also be a loss to the world of a culture and a language. We are doing so much to save animals and plants from extinction. How can we tolerate. of a nation?"

Dr Ayaz said Tuvalu's 10,000 islanders could be relocated to Australia or New Zealand. "Their lives would be saved but the culture would die. The world would be the poorer," he said.

Many of these far-flung,



Many low-lying islands are at risk from rising sea levels

vulnerable, nations are also important staging and resting posts for migrating birds, as well as being home to unique wildlife unlikely to survive elsewhere.

A spokesman for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds cited the Cape Verde islands, home to the Raso lark, and the Sevchelles, home to the Seychelles magpie-robin. These birds will vanish

from the wild if these islands disappear or there is a significant loss of land," he said. The island nations facing

the most uncertain future are, like the Marshalls, the coral Neroni Slade, the Samoan

Ambassador to the UN and chairman of Aosis, said that many small islands were already experiencing greater storm and wave damage. Property insurance was becoming increasingly hard to obtain or was being offered at

prohibitively high costs. "The insurance industry has suffered enormous losses over recent years. They are with-

drawing from many islands or many ordinary citizens can no longer afford the high rates,"

Scientists advising the UN Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change, estimate that sea levels will rise by half a metre during the next century as global temperatures rise.

Dr Tom Spencer, of the Coastal Research Unit at Cambridge University, said the critical question was whether the reels that protect these islands from storms and waves would grow fast enough to keep up with rising

Some researchers fear rising temperatures will cause bleaching which kills the organisms that feed a reef's

resilient," Dr Spencer said.

growth. There is also human impact. Reefs from Asia to Indonesia are under enormous

pressure from huge, growing, urban population. Pollution and destruction mean maybe the corals will become less

Coral reefs need clear water to defend these islands will also replenish themselves. depend on the extent to which

other climatic events become more frequent and violent. El Niño, a transfer of warm water across the Pacific which can trigger droughts and monsoons, can — like global warming — raise sea levels by 18-20 inches.

Dr John Bythell, an expert on coral atolls at the University of Newcastle's Marine Sciences and Coastal Management Centre, said many of these islands would become intolerable well before the last acre disappeared beneath the

Studies indicate that, once a reef fails to defend an atoll, the island spirals into decline. Beaches, also vital for defending the land and property and important for tourism, will be washed away. Soils, vital for buildings and crops, then become more rapidly eroded.

The mud and debris washed

off the land would make seas murky, making it impossible for sunlight to filter through. Nutrients, released from the land, favour other marine organisms above coral like macro-algae or fleshy sea-weeds. They will then grow up and smother the reef," said Dr Bythell.

Fragile freshwater supplies. built up by rainfall and floating on top of saltwater in the centre of the islands, are likely to become contaminated by seawater. The fertile land for growing crops such as coconuts will also become increasingly salty and worthless. Eventually, more land will be lost to erosion and flooding and the economy of these states will collapse.

Leading article, page 23

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Climate conference has stormy outlook

By NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

hange, in the Japanese city of Kyoto next month, promises to be one of the most politically charged environmental meetings for many years. Negotiations will focus on a

legally binding commitment by rich countries to curb emissions of carbon dioixide and other global warming gases such as methane. Few nations, with the pos-

sible exception of some members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, appear to doubt scientific claims that rising pollution, mainly from burning fossil fuels, is threatening the planet. However, there remain deep divisions within key countries, including the Uni-ted States, over the scale of the likely impacts, the cost of taking action and the speed required to head off the

The road to Kyoto began in

Rio de Janeiro five years ago when the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change obliged industrialised nations to stabilise emissions of carbon

dioxide at 1990 levels by 2000. But only a few countries, including Britain, will meet these voluntary targets. In 1995 the Berlin Mandate set a deadline for the Kyoto meeting where binding targets would become subject to international law.

The offers on the table are

numerous and many have caveats. New Zealand wants its forests, which soak up carbon gases, to be included in its curback plan.

The United States wants forest planting and other

'mitigation" schemes it implements in the Third World to count against its domestically generated pollution.

The European Union has set a target of a 15 per cent cut

by 2010, while Britain has said that, whatever is agreed. it will voluntarily cut emissions by 20 per cent by 2010. Canada and America, the world's biggest emitter, have said they will only stabilise by 2010 rather than cut. America's other contentious propos al is that developing countries, including China and India, should sign up

now to future cuts. Australia, another big emitter and producer of fossil fuels, wants its emissions to rise by 18 per cent. Japan is proposing cuts of between 3,2 and 5 per cent.

On the other side are the G77 group of developing na-tions, and China, which are calling for cuts by rich countries of 35 per cent by 2020. They also want a compensa tion package to help them to clean up power station emis-sions. Where agreement will be found is anybody's guess.



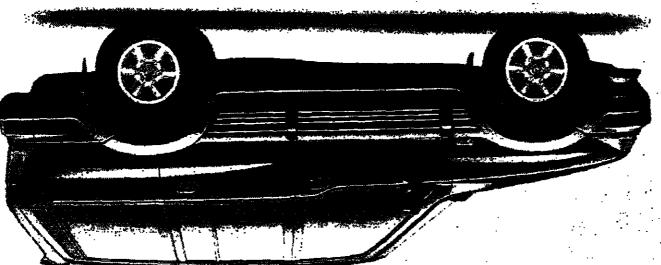
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# · Reflections of a Sixties siren

Joan Baez, queen of hippy protest and haunting songs of tragedy and loss, is 56, in her prime and back on tour

am not on top of a mountain, and I am not under the ground," sings Joan Baez, in a song called Who Do You Think I Am? "I am not spilling over the edge, and I am not easily

She is easily found tonight: at the Royal Festival Hall, the London leg of her British tour. On Thursday 1 found her in Bristol, listening to operatic arias in black leggings. sweater and boots, her iron-grey hair cut short except for one long skinny plait at the back - in her

magnificent prime at almost 57.

Do I look wise for my young age?" she asks the photographer, whispering to save her voice, which still has all its crystalline purity. "That's the beauty of being legend-ary," she sighs. "It means some-thing has to have lasted."

The times go on a-changin', and they leave old rockers (and folk singers) behind, unless they do one of two things: succumb to an early violent death, or re-invent themselves to console the baby-boom generation with jubilant comeback tours like An Evening With Joan Baez, playing to packed houses.

In Bristol I sat between two

adoring male fans: one, from Stokeon-Trent, was following her to every single concert, including Belfast and Dublin next week. The grizzled bloke on my right had come "for old times" sake" and having been "inside" himself, he longed to hear her sing "Show me the prison . . . , which she did. The crowd wanted Joe Hill — Tony Benn's favourite — and called out for her to play anything by Bobby ("Bobby who?" says Baez, launch-ing into Don't Think Twice It's All Right). There is a complicity with her audience.

But her show hangs on her new songs - from her latest Grapevine CD. Back From Danger - and these are different: elliptical, understated, moving. One sad song about a parting couple has the haunting lines: "First we forgot where we planted those bulbs last year. Then we forgot we had planted at all." I've played this CD on a loop all week, and I haven't done that since Graceland. "I think these songs have done the magic for me," Joan

legend is that you're a legend for ever," she says, "and I didn't realise that in order to combat that, I had to become current with the music of

About a decade ago she had what she refers to as a "wake-up call" one morning at 2am. Her record sales had slumped. She had become fossilised, and (her word) mediocre. "I suddenly realised that while I had kept two steps ahead politically, I was fully two steps behind musically." So she found herself a manager, Mark Spector, who brought her a set of new young songwriters who revere her and



Joan Baez did not even smoke pot in the Sixties. But she was "monumentally narcissistic - I thought the world revolved around me" and had years of therapy

can construct an intelligent, dra-

matic contemporary song.
"I am not about We Shall Overcome. The Sixties have passed. I don't regret We Shall Overcome, I am proud of all that, and what I did, but I've stopped so many interviewers in their tracks — I'm dying of boredom here — if they only want to talk about the great old days. They weren't so great for me: I worked very, very hard and I was very, very serious. I didn't know how to have fun. Now it's a pleasure to go on stage." This is clear: there is laughter and wit. with all these musicians half her age around her.

Unexpectedly, I found Joan Baez senior, her Scottish mother, sitting outside her daughter's dressingroom: a trim octogenarian with the same cheekbones as her daughter and the residue of an Edinburgh accent: She'd just tapped out an in California, a happy Thanksgiving. She accompanies Joan all over "She's a bus rat. She loves to travel" -- she was at Woodstock and she even went to jail with her daughter (for withholding taxes during the Vietnam war).

uring her concert, Joan junior made Joan senior stand up in the stalls, and called. "Hi mom! Thanks for borning me. 1 know I haven't been easy." "My mother is just all heart.

Much younger in spirit than my father." Joan says. Albert Baez was

professor of physics at Stanford University in her Palo Alto childhood. But he also worked for Unesco and took his family to Mexico and Baghdad. And that's where Joan's political awareness came from. She refused to take part in an air-raid drill at school (when the Russians were thought to be coming any minute).

"When my father went to MIT [the Massachusetts Institute of Technology], we moved to Cambridge. I had no idea what to do with my life. It was clear that there was not an academic sinew in my body. My unsuspecting father took me into the coffee shops of Boston. with their banjo players and folk

balladeers and blue-grass."

Here she picked up songs, memorising them at midnight (by day she had a job teaching people to ride Vespa scooters) and falling selements to the control of the selements. asleep with her guitar on her chest. because I was lonely and people liked to hear me and it was a route to social activity." She is in awe of the person she

was at 19. Stardom happened fast: she was invited to Newport in 1959 by Odetta (and made the cover of Time magazine) just as she in turn invited Bob Dylan on stage with her at Newport in 1963 — and you know the rest.

What she has now is discipline and routines. Her parents and two sisters live near by, near their childhood home in Palo Alto. But it is her elder sister who lives in the mountains like a gypsy, growing



building houses from mud. Joan. by contrast, lives the more conventional life: when not performing she rises at 5,30am and walks her dogs Fargo and Dakota, "and do my stretching exercises and all that healthy stuff, and goats and chickens and homespun things".

Does she ever get disillusioned about misplaced political idealism, eg, when hearing about Winnie Mandela? "For me the key to not being disillusioned with the universe was not being illusioned with the human race in the first place. "I was strict about who my heroes were. Everyone's human

and everyone is scathed. People turn out to have shortcomings. Only Nelson Mandela and Vaciav Havel seem unscathed. We now know Gandhi wasn't very nice to his wife, and Luther King drank too much ... I remember being with Dr King once when he'd had too much to drink and I'd been in bed with one of his cohorts, and he said, 'Now you know I'm not a saint',

and I said 'Now you know I'm not the Madonna .... She was brought up to be a Quaker pacifist like her father. "At their best, Quakers are dyed-in-thewool radicals and that's the part I like. What I do keep of the Quaker way is the silence. It's a kind of meditation. To find where I am in

the great big world."

African drumming."

She says her son Gabriel (from her brief marriage to David Harris, a draft resistance leader) was disillusioned to discover she had "Mother, you hypocrite." So how did she react when he started? "I was unhappy about it. Now he's reached a point in his life when he's OK, and it wouldn't bother me if he took out a joint and had a smoke." She produces snapshots of a handsome lad with a fine chest of hair. "And his heart is as lovely as his face. He is into Chinese healing and

She recently took Gabe back to the château in Normandy where she once lived with "the Count". Denis de Kergoley of Médecins sans Frontières. "I'm now making up for the fact that I was MIA. missing in action, for much of Gabe's childhood, and now we have a chance to be friends." Having managed to avoid the usual pitfalls of the music business drinking and drugs and sociopathic behaviour — she did have panic attacks, phobias and years of therapy. Fame had spoiled her. he has said — and her 1987

autobiography confirmed - that she was "monumentally narcissistic"."That's true. An intelligent woman reviewed my book in The New York Times and referred to my pre-Copernican view of myself. I thought the world revolved around me. hah!" she laughs. But I don't feel in the least concerned about my status in the entertainment world. I was always a counterculture figure. It just happened that in the Sixties the counterculture became the

She speaks dismissively of "the way people throw around the word 'artist' now, referring to some mediocre performer propped up by a bunch of lights and drum To my consternation I realise we

have talked for an hour and the name of B- D- has not been mentioned once. "Good. Great!" said Joan, getting ready to go on stage. For her finale she improvised to Simon and Garfunkel's The Boxer: "The years are rolling by . . and I am ageing well", and basked. not too narcissistically, in tumultuous applause.

### American lord of the dance isn't done with surprises

MUSIC lovers have been singing the praises of this year's Belfast Festival. Now it is the turn of dance lovers to jump for joy, for on Thursday night the revitalised festival scored a real coup; the British premiere of Merce Cun-ningham's Ocean. This is a work so ambitious in its undertaking and so intoxicating in its effect as to make most modern dance look puny by comparison.

Ocean was conceived by Cunningham and John Cage, his lifelong musical collaborator, shortly before the compuser's death in 1992. The two were inspired by a suggestion that, had he lived. James Joyce would have written a novel about water and the ocean, it was Cage's idea to present the dance in a circular space with the 15 dancers surrounded by the audience, who are in turn surrounded by 112 musicians (here members of

### DANCE

Merce Cunningham Belfast Festival

the Queen's University Symphony Orchestra), playing without a conductor high up in the auditorium. The idea, according to Cunningham, is that the audience soaks in a

Cage died before he could compose the score; it was left to Andrew Culver to write the music using Cage's ideas. Culver produced a score that teeters on the edge of selfdestructive abandon while maintaining an innate musicality. David Tudor, meanwhile, provided a companion electronic score which mixes underwater sounds whales, ice, sonar and ships - in a percolating marine wilderness.

Only a space as exciting and ver-satile as Belfast's Waterfront Hall could do justice to Cunningham's audacious conception. He has created 90 minutes of concentrated abstract dance that claims no emotional resonance, no dramatic underpinning and no structural logic. Just pure unadulterated dance performed by dancers whose fearsome muscular control is matched by minds of blazing clarity.

Although the movement unfolds in the round, one is never aware of the lack of fixed perspectives. And remarkably, every member of the audience can believe he or she is constantly getting the best view, so completely does the choreography and front. As always these days, the steps

and the way they are sequenced are devised with the aid of a computer Cunningham loves random choice. But it is tempting to read into them a deliberate imagery: in the way limbs feel weighted by the resistance of water; how a current seems to motivate the dancers like surfers riding a big wave; or in the way the surface calm conceals a deeper turbulence. He may be 78, but the grand old man of American dance isn't done surprising us yet.

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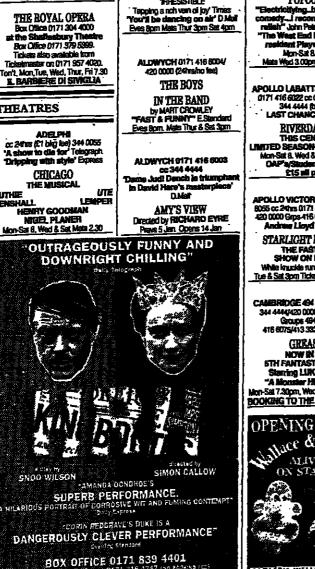
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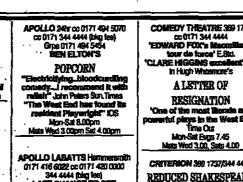
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### The truth behind the beastly tales

Simon Barnes on the animals

that stalk the mind's wilderness

nce again the Beast of Bodmin raises its comely head. Or maybe it doesn't. Still, this week has brought us yet another photograph of the legendary cat, and a jolly beast-like snap it is, too. But it matters little whether our modern-day Grimalkin is, or is not, lurking in the West Country wilds. It softfoots its way unchallenged across the minds of the English people. Unlike the Africans, who

inhabit a darker continent, who see lions and elephant and hippopatami aplenty, we are a bit short of real mon-sters. That is why we are so captivated by beastly tales. Imaginary animals luck in the darker wildernesses of our

There is a whole science — I use the term loosely - dedicated to them. These are beasts that a Roman Catholic priest - who always comes into it. for some reason - swears he has seen. But for us more ordinary mortals, they seem always to exist just a fraction beyond the focus of the longest lens. They live and breathe and have their being just a tantalising inch away from outright proof. Study of these animals is called cryptozoology.

The Loch Ness Monster, Bigfoot, the Abominable a natural Snowman: these are always considered fear of the to be leviathans that time forgot. The natural Loch Ness Monster is (or is not) a plesioworld the great cretaceous

extinction: the others are great apes, missing links that somehow leapt clear when the grim reaper of extinction swung his

Other cryptic monsters have a more prosaic background. My early journalistic days, tedious enough in all conscience, on the Surrey Mirror were occasionally enlivened by tales of the Surrey Puma. A pet rabbit had only to be nibbled by a fox or a dog and the whole story could be gleefully resurrected again.

Does the puma still stalk around Reigate and Redhill? If so, it is certainly most venerable by now. But perhaps it has sired a dynasty of pumas, living their secret lives, ever just a torchbeam-length away from a clear sighting.

There is always a feasible

explanation for such mysteries: usually an escape from a zoo or the menagerie of some eccentric collector. Or perhaps they are animals deliberately released by unscrupulous liberators — the guerrilla wing of the RSPCA, perhaps.

The Beast of Bodmin is now revealed in a fairly convincing least, an awfully large pussycat - probably a puma. There are apparently (or allegedly) a pair. Footprints have been found in china clay pits that give "every indication" of a puma and a cub. The critters are breeding out there! Cue Jurassic Park music.

Well, maybe they are. We certainly want to believe it. At least the souvenir touts do. A home-grown monster is great for trade in T-shirts and mugs and dishcloths and pens. But our desire to believe goes farther than that.

Belief in something monstrous out there, something big and hairy and razor-fanged, goes deep into our human race-memories — into atavistic instincts kept alive in fairy tale. The story of Little Red Riding Hood may seem a merry tale, but once it was a nightmare. Not so very many millennia ago, the forests really were dangerous. Little boys really did cry wolf. Little girls really might meet families of bears. People got killed out

Now, in the area around Bodmin Moor, reactions range from incredulity through rather edgy facetiousness to complete and touching faith. This sort of wild beast comes to us in the form of fiction, imagination, folk-tale and maybe the occasional escape. And we respond to them as a strange, ungovernable form of nostalgia: an involuntary memory of times the balance of power of life on earth was utterly

> Once people lived in a state of siege, in islands of civilisation surrounded by oceans of wilderness. And in the wilderness were beasts that could bite. Now our wilderness survives islands: besieged

lapping oceans of civilisation.
Our ancestors had a natural fear of wilderness and a natural fear of the natural world. We are still in the grip of this fear. Perhaps that is why the pace of destruction of the natural world continues unabated: our technology is 21st century, but part of our minds is always running 5,000

patches of green threatened by

💙 ryptozoology is an instructive subject, but mainly for what it tells us about the human mind: always half in love with, half in deadly fear of the wild. But. as a matter of fact. I can tell you about creatures ten times as weird as the Loch Ness Monster and the Beast of Bodmin simply by stretching out a hand to my bookshelves.

I am compiling a bestiary, you see: a bestiary of endangered animals. Real ones: beasts whose current existence is not in doubt, although their future existence is. These include such delights as the Kerry slug, the St Helena giant earwig, the pygmy hog-sucking louse and the Iowa

Pleistocene snail. These are all genuine creatures but all genuinely threatened with extinction. Moral: the natural world is not, after all, weirder than we imagine. It is weirder than we can



U-Turnips (Manifesto wasinjesto)

These vegetables do not live up to their spring promise. They can make a perfect hash, leaving a nasty taste, but still remain surprisingly popular.

# Pulp fact for the prurient

The marital affairs of Earl Spencer, currently before a court in South Africa, are of no conceivable public interest to Britain. The custodian of the Spencer millions is not running for public office and holds no professional trust. He receives no public funds. The state of his marriage, the extent of his wealth, the glamour of his women, the quantity (or quality) of his infidelities in no way impinge on

public policy.
No law is at issue in his case, no wider principle in need of public debate. Divorce court proceedings are conducted in public only on the archaic and often oquel grounds that marriage breakdown is a communal. not a private affair. But even a divorce should not involve the sacrifice of every right to privacy.

Earl Spencer is a private citizen who has emphatically refused to consent to intrusion on his affairs. Other than what is said in a courtroom, he is entitled to the protection of the code of practice laid down by the Press Complaints Commission. No "public interest" defence

I must, of course, be joking. "No public interest?" cries the public with one voice. What about the massive another tale of the love life of the sexy earl. Read out another salacious detail about the umpteenth model. Here is a real-life nobleman, brother of the saintly Diana, ensnared by an entire regiment of alimony-sex-and-shopping harridans. All they wanted was to nab a title and grab some cash - "just a little, tiny cheque" said one this week - and then he treats them badly. The man is clearly a cad. The world loves to see such men brought low. No public interest? Pull the other

I had better start again. Readers of this newspaper will have noted a story filling most of page five of Wednesday's issue. The headline was "Holiday alone for lawyer who fled bride and gloom". A Londoner named Tasos Michael had met Nicole Contos, the daughter of a New York banana tycoon, on a Mediterranean beach. Love blossomed and a marriage was arranged. Just before the ceremony, the groom panicked and fled alone to the Tahitian hotel which he had intended for their honeymoon.

The mortified Miss Contos was not to be outsnubbed. She invited the wedding guests to a slap-up recep-

Though Earl Spencer is a private citizen, his infelicities inflame public interest. We

deal rough justice, but there is no escape

tion, an event that did little to enhance the good name of London lawyer/fiances. Neither Miss Contos nor Mr Michael were going to sacrifice spending commitments merely for want of a wedding. She has duly become Saint Joan of the chat shows in America's gender war. He is collecting his thoughts in Tahiti and trying to avoid the press. If there is one thing the world cannot tolerate. it is a cancelled wedding.

These are all private people. Nei-ther Earl Spencer nor Mr Michael sought publicity for their private lives, indeed both struggled to avoid it. Earl Spencer "put himself for-ward" on the issue of privacy in his funeral oration on

Diana. I disagreed with what he said.
But nothing there jeopardised his ostensible rights under Britain's pri-True, he also proffered himself as protector of the heir to the throne. Ac-

cording to his wife's publicists, his domestic arrangements hardly make him ideal to fill that role. All in all, he may be an odd fish, unappealing except to a narrow class of entrepreneurial females. But lack of charm should not expunge his right to natural justice.

The breakdown in their personal relationships has meant both Earl Spencer and Mr Michael being subjected to public obloquy, punished beyond all sense of proportion. Given the publicity they have experienced. I doubt if any woman has an ounce of sympathy for either of them.

The only place for such men is in the wrong. No ruination, no bankruptcy, no slur on their good name is too much. Mr Michael should have gone to the altar. Earl Spencer should have paid up like a man. Any punishment fits the crime, with a willing media acting as judge, jury and executioner. Husbands, wives, children, all are swept up and delivered to the gallows, to a gallery of cheering women.

What business is this of ours? All broken marriages are tragic, but the shades of guilt are peculiarly unsuited to a court of law, let alone to the cruder jury of the press. If the courts must be involved, I do not see what public interest is served by them sitting in open session, certainly no interest that outweighs the harm to the parties and their children. If "reporting restrictions" can apply in cases of child crime and rape, why not in matrimonial litigation. especially where children are involved? Were these men victims of physical injury from a mob, the law would

offer them protection. To be the

victim of mob ridicule under court

privilege leaves Yet to assent a right to privacy is procedure aside. nobody has found a way of doing this. Especially for those already famous, the conditions are too hard to define. In

Earl Spencer's case, many would still consider him fair game given the terms of his funeral oration. It is one thing to assert that people must be allowed to take a stance on privacy without thereby sacrificing any right to it themselves. It is another to imagine a court convicting a newspaper presenting a "public interest" defence, when the plaintiff is rich, well-known, spoke at Diana's funeral and leads what many would consider to be a less than blameless private life. It is even harder to define the rights of a husband in such a case, when the wife chooses to breach his privacy as a tactical weapon both in

and out of court. As Earl Spencer has been forced to admit, even South Africa's stringent privacy laws are no defence against the media equivalent of a tornado. Like all privacy laws, South Africa's are fine when dormant and useless when put to the test. The Spencer story is simply too big for the law to handle. All restraint, whether by law

or self-regulation, is swept aside by voracious reader appetite. The "pubic interest" defence for intrusion is

hopelessly ambiguous. It is a shoe that can be stretched to fit any foot.

The private infelicity of others is of utter public fascination. All other excuses for intrusion are humbug. Pulp fiction will appeare this fascina-tion, but when pulp fact is on offer, there is joy in Heaven and Fleet

England has no word for Schadenfreude, but it certainly has a yen for it. How delicious it is to see the pain of others. Affairs of the heart turned sour are worth a dozen sleaze rows or Euro-debates or fox-hunting bans. Here are human anguish, courage viciousness and love paraded before us, and in real time. A high-profile divorce is prize fighting for romantics. Damn the press for its intrusiveness, cries the public, as it pours into the shop to buy every scrap of intrusive news.

Joseph Conrad wrote that no man has come of age until life has visited him with a monstrous practical joke. The flippancy was aimed at a darker truth. There is something of Lord Jim in both Mr Michael and Earl Spencer. Mr Michael vanished to distant parts after having an onrush of wisdom, for which no one will give: him credit. Lord Spencer vanished despite being born to perk and privilege, apparently to start a new life. Both are victims of a fame they never sought. Yet such people can draw down only so much sympathy.

hey are best seen as victims of accident, caught at random in the roving spotlight of celebrity. They then become mirrors which we hold up to our faces, either to understand ourselves better or, at worst, to make ourselves feel good. Alexander Pope understood the paradox of self-righteousness amid disaster. His tarnished humanity was "Sole judge of truth, in endless error hurl'd! The glory, jest, and riddle of the world." Marriage is a microcosm of such equivocal glory. The proper study of mankind is married man.

Each week offers fresh material for this study. The justice is rough on persons known or unknown. But there is no escape. If fame is an accident, it must be treated as a joke in bad taste. We must laugh in its face. If Earl Spencer cannot take a joke, he should not have married the woman in question.

### Philip Howard



### ■ Fond farewell to a hero and a pedant

the couple marching west-ward down Piccadilly were impeccably turned out. He in Homburg and sub-fusc overcoat with furled um-brella hooked over his arm. She in black fur hat with diamond regimental badge of the Mutton Lancers. I fell in beside them and said: "You must be marching for Shan Hackett. Mind if I join you?" The eminent general peered through the gloom at my Black Watch tie and asked: "Were you in his regiment?" But I was one of Hackett's friends from the peccably turned out world of hackery.
Sir John Hackert's memorial

service was one of the last for what in Forty Years On Alan Bennett called "The Breed", and whom mischievous obituarists describe as "the Moustaches": genuine heroes. But Shan was a rarer breed than that. He was a scholar-general. Soldier poets are common, as seen in this week's film Regeneration. But those are other ranks or junior

Scholar-generals come once a century and are regarded with suspicion by Whitehall. Archie Wavell was removed from North Africa by Churchill, but as Viceroy he laid the foundations for Independence for which Mountbatten claimed the credit. Philip Sidney was cut off at Zutphen, having discarded leg armour when he found that a comrade-in-arms had neglected to wear any. Julius Caesar is remembered more for his commentaries than his conquests.

So Shan's service was an unusual mixture. It was both pukka and intellectual. There were more field marshals than one would dare to shake a swagger stick at, and brigadiers in razor-creased suits acted as ushers. But the words were read by eminent professors in smoking-room suits and the choir came from King's College London in student jeans.

I met Shan when he wrote to me about solecisms in The Times: I wrote back unusually briskly on the subject of "gay" as. an adjective or noun applied to a homosexual, pointing out that the word had shady sexual roots from its origins. And I rounded off, impertinently, telling him that he ran some risk of becom-

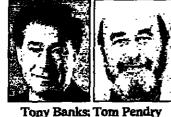
ing a linguistic curmudgeon. From that letter we became friends. For Shan was that white unicorn of language, a broadminded pedant. He was also no mean classicist. His presidential address to the Classical Association, treating the Iliad as if it were a modern campaign, was a tour de force. He witnessed the origin of the slang "to swan around. For he was open to the young and their language. which was why there was no student rebellion at King's 30 years ago. And after we had saluted the last scholar-general, the old and the bold, the gowns and the towns marched to the Cavalry and Guards Club to toast him in flowing champagne. And if ever tempted to be unduly permissive or less than precise about language, I shall remember my dear liberal ped-ant and simplify.

### Own goal

A LABOUR MP looks set to take a new job that would put him under pressure to resign from the House of Commons. Tom Pendry is expected to be appointed as head of the Football Trust, for which he would be paid partly out of public funds. Under parliamentary rules, ministers are the only MPs allowed to be remunerated from the public purse. Tony Blair has pushed Pendry for the job after passing him over for Sports Minister in favour of Tony Banks. Pendry, who remains bitter at his failure to gain the portfolio last May after having been sports spokesman, will be able to

establish his own power base to compete with Banks. The Football Trust is to be given £5 million from the lottery - which Tories will insist is public money. The chairman. Lord Aberdare, a former Tory minister, is stepping down. Richard Faulkner, his deputy, was to be offered the job by trustees. But Whitehall has intervened to

push for Pendry. The appointment is now awaiting the endorsement of Banks, who prefers Faulkner. But I gather that he has been overruled by Blair. The job was to be unpaid, but Pendry apparently had assumed he would receive a salary. Should he get one, it raises ques-



tions about whether he could be deemed to be holding an "office of profit under the Crown". "I have had no formal offer," ventures the bejewelled Pendry. "I understand that the job is a paid position."

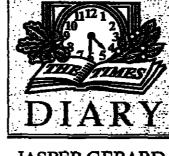


OASIS are to be invited to perform at the Millennium Dome. Tony Blair's favourite rockers are being wooed by Peter Mandelson. a friend of Alan McGee, the Gallagher brothers record company boss. This could solve a crisis, as little has been organised by way of nocturnal entertainment. I have just one question: by 2000, will Oasis be starring as buskers at the new Greenwich Underground?

### **Prickly visitor** THE Queen has just eaten the first

pineapple to be grown here since the 18th century. The Smooth Cayenne was presented at Buckingham Palace on Thursday night from the Lost Gardens of Heligan - a revivalist patch down in Cornwall. Her Majesty are the fruit instead of pudding that night. It was delivered in a taxi by Tim Smit, chief pineapple-tender. "We found the shrub in South Africa and grew it in 100 tons of hot manure in our 18th-century pineapple pits." he says proudly. "Prince Charles visited in June and suggested that his mother might like one." So how

OLD TIMES "It is not miners who should face the sack, but ministers who betrayed them." Robin Cook in 1993, on Michael Heseltine's energy policy. This week, Labour backbenchers accused the Government of failing to protect 5,000 threatened jobs in the industry.



### JASPER GERARD

come Hanoverian sorts could grow them? They used to keep boys up all night to swish pineapples around in steaming manure." Delicious, I am sure.

 AFTER Lord Irvine of Lairg's department shelled out a reported E60,000 for wallpaper, the Lord



The Queen: pincapple meal

headhunters Price Waterhouse to find a new Permanent Secretary. Facing competition for the £125,000-a-year post has done lit-tle to win him the fab bloke of the year award from civil servants particularly as the need for legal qualifications is to be waived.

### Seedy plans

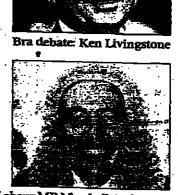
THE SPIRIT of Nazism will forever pervade the Reichstag - thanks, partly, to Sir Norman Foster. The British architect, giving the building an MoT so it can house the new. German parliament, is studying the papers of the architect Albert Speer, a particular favourite of Adolf Hitler. Speer conducted extensive geotechnical surveys for foundations on which to build halls of the people, victory arches, grand avenues, stuff to please Adolf. Now Foster is cribbing his notes. "Speer discussed with a German engineer how to make parliament as energyefficient as possible," I am told Among the ideas being chewed over? Powering the Reichstag by rapeseed oil.

NEW TIMES CHRISTMAS spirit Shoppers pessing the windows of the Dickins & Jones department store in London will be treated to the compelling sight of female models in evening dress — each holding a good-will Kelashnikov rille encrusted with thry glittering mirrors.



PARTY TIME HAVING chewed over the quality of parliamentary debate at the Speciator awards at the Savoy last week, lunchtime conversation turned, naturally, to bras. Ken Livingstone raised the matter with Kimberly Fortier, the magazine's publisher. And she suggests that the Left's champion recommended the Oueen's brassiere manufacturer (Rigby & Peller, apparently). The MP offers a different slant. "I would only recommend M&S, definite-

ly," he ventures. Top table conversation was more reflective. Lord Callaghan



Magazine publisher Fortier, Labour MP Marshall-Andrews

of Cardiff said: "Sitting on the terrace of the Commons on an afternoon last summer with the PM, he said that he had never met Harold Wilson. I was even more shocked when the Conservatives elected a leader younger than my grandson." Later I stumbled across the marvellous Bob Marshall-Andrews, raffish QC and Labour MP, slurping from a silver salver. He suggest-ed an excellent dictum for political survival. "If you manage to keep your head while all around are losing theirs, then you have seriously failed to grasp the gravity of the situation."

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Greenwich field

Sir. Whatever the merits of the Mil-

lennium Exhibition itself, there were

at least two good reasons for choosing

Greenwich as its location instead of a greenfield site near Birmingham.

derelict urban land than to build in

the countryside. Second, Greenwich offered the potential of reaching the exhibition entirely by public transport

while Birmingham was touted for its

proximity to the motorway network and its ease of access by car.

ger of being squandered. On December I Greenwich Council is to consider

an application to build a massive 1,400-space car park on Falconwood

Field. Lying immediately south of Ox-

leas Wood, which is designated as a

site of special scientific interest, and

some four miles from the Dome, this ten-acre field enjoys the designation of metropolitan open land (unique to

London) as an area of historic,

nature-conservation or habitat inter-

est of metropolitan or national value". To lose it is the local equivalent of

sacrificing part of Hyde Park, Hamp-

Falconwood Field would provide

only a fraction of the 9,000 car park-

ing spaces the exhibition organisers want. The exhibition has also been used as justification for enlarging the

Al02 from six to eight lanes south of

the four-lane Blackwall Tunnel, and

for the recent decision in the accel-

erated roads review to spend £145 mil-

lion on "improvements" of the AI3 just

The "Millennium Experience"

would give a much better account of

modern Britain if it displayed a prop-

er regard for valued open space, vital

to the wellbeing of the urban environ-

ment, and an understanding that a

modern transport system does not de-

We hope that Greenwich Council

has thought about these matters more

carefully than others appear to have

pend on unnecessary car use.

(Campaigns and Development

All-embracing terms

Sir, May I suggest that a suitable

replacement for "to develop" and

"developer" (letter, November 28),

which would express more precise connotations, would be "to envelope"

Yours sincerely, RICHARD BOURN

Officer), CPRE London Branch,

5 Cowcross Street, ECI.

From Mr John Ratcliffe

November 27.

and "enveloper".

Yours faithfully,

November 28.

JOHN RATCLIFFE.

18 Castle Lane, Warwick.

Proceed with care

Sir, The NHS General Ophthalmic

Services prescription that my daugh-

ter recently obtained from the optician

for long-sightedness bears the instruc-tion: "Read the rest of this form before

From Dr Antony Warren

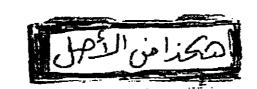
north of the river.

stead Heath or Richmond Park.

Both these advantages are in dan-

First, it was better to use restored

From Mr Richard Bourn





### **GREEN PIQUE**

The EU should get off its high horse at the climate conference

Five years ago at the Rio de Janeiro "Earth summit", governments agreed that, for all the multiple disagreements about its extent and nature, global warming was a sufficiently serious planetary risk to warrant an international convention to limit climate change. All countries agreed to report on their emissions of the "greenhouse gases", notably carbon dioxide, which trap heat in the atmosphere; and the industrialised countries, which account for 70 per cent of emissions, also agreed on a voluntary basis to make a start on cutting their CO2 emissions. No country was willing to commit itself to legally binding targets.

SER STATE MEERS

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No.

to a hero

and a pedant

The international debate since then has become decidedly heated - not least because Rio divided the world into the "Annexe I" industrialised countries which were to cut emissions and the rest, which successfully argued that to do so would unfairly inhibit their economic growth. Climate change has thus become hostage to all the destructive habits of north-south diplomacy. But the diplomats have inched forward. Two years ago in Berlin, the Annexe I countries agreed to legally binding limits on future emissions. although they deferred a decision to 1997.

That deadline has now arrived; but the 169 governments which descend on Kyoto this Monday are bitterly divided about what target to set, by when, and even about who should sign up to it. The European Union has taken a maximalist position which would reduce the industrialised world's emissions to 85 per cent of 1990 levels by 2010. America, pointing out that most EU countries will not even meet the Rio goal of stabilising CO2 emissions at 1990 levels by 2000, says that this is simply not credible. The EU is derisive of America's own offer, which goes no further than stabilising at 1990 levels by around 2012. America further insists that there will be no deal if the developing countries continue to be given a 'free ride". Deadlock is possible.

The EU should get off its high horse, fast. What matters at Kyoto is not so much the precise target that is set - this can always be toughened in future negotiations - but the legal precedent. There are serious argu- a deal than with a glow of virtue unrequited.

ments about how much needs to be done, how soon, and even the US target would represent a cut of 30 per cent on what its emissions would otherwise be by 2012. A modest target is better than none at all. Equally, America should accept that the West has a responsibility to set the pace.

The one thing that would represent an unacceptable risk is delay. This is because emissions in the developing countries are rising fast; they have gone up in the past five years by between 25 per cent and 50 per cent in India, China, Indonesia and South Korea. The Americans have a point. But there is no prospect of the wider bargain that is needed if the West, as today's principal polluter, cannot agree now to legal limits.

Beyond Kyoto, governments should think hard about methods, not just targets. Many of the actions required if CO2 output is to be reduced make good economic as well as environmental sense. It would benefit Germany to cut its coal subsidies, Britain to insulate its houses better and America to promote fuel-efficient cars. But others will be very expensive.

So the next step is to look at trade-offs of two kinds. The first should be to help developing countries with technology that would help fuel-efficient growth. The second could, as America has urged, be to develop a trade in emissions "permits". The idea would be for countries where emissions can be cut more cheaply to sell emission rights to others where they would cost more. Since climate knows no boundaries, what matters is overall transmissions, and this could cut costs of CO2 reductions in the developed world by up to 40 per cent. Poorer countries would make gains, in return, in technology and efficiency. Last month, the US signed what could be a model deal of this kind with Argentina. Britain, Germany and the US have begun drafting trading rules and a few key future polluters, such as India, have expressed cautious interest. But this is delicate bargaining territory. Deadlock at Kyoto would end the prospects of such tradeoffs. The EU goes to Kyoto clothed in right-

eousness. It is more important to return with

### **FALSE TRAIL**

The Government's options after the anti-hunting vote

After the relative calm of Bosnia, Tony Blair risks in this approach that should not be has to consider his options in the harsher underestimated. Mr Blair's cherished reputhight of the House of Commons vote on ation as a "fairly straight sort of guy" would hunting. Michael Foster's Wild Maminals be damaged by a shift that so smacked of (Hunting with Dogs) Bill received a massive opportunism. To turn a Criminal Justice Bill 260-vote majority. As matters stand, this legislation will probably not make further progress during this session of Parliament. That is not, though, certain. Mr Blair has been presented with a dilemma, a potential opportunity and a possible danger.

There will be the temptation for the Prime Minister to acknowledge the "will of the people". The anti-hunting cause could be coopted and introduced as an amendment to a Criminal Justice Bill. This might have many tactical advantages. The Government would receive direct credit for the abolition measure. It would offer radicalism of a sort but without unfortunate public expenditure consequences. A substantial section of the electorate would be impressed. Furthermore, this might appease dozens of increasingly restless Labour backbench members.

Yet, the most significant incentive would be of an entirely different nature. Those who want to move swiftly against the House of Lords have sensed this is also their moment. The heriditary peers could be drawn into a showdown on this issue. Nothing would undermine the case for retaining their lordships in their current form more than a reactionary struggle on behalf of an unloved minority. The ermine and the fox might both be dealt with in one sitting. This would prompt further plaudits still from the same potential rebels who could otherwise oppose Mr Blair on social security questions.

There is also, however, the danger of trying to be too clever. There are substantial

- concerned with teenage tearaways - into a conduit for a completely different subject would be a juvenile offence of Jack Straw's making. A proposal that should attract allparty support would become a battlefield.

The House of Lords might not play the losing role that has been scripted. Once Mr Blair had declared war, their present selfrestraint - on devolution and the incorporation of the European Convention - could disappear very swiftly. It is possible that a Criminal Justice Bill that included an antihunting measure might be lost in the Upper House - and with a majority of life peers against it. If so, the Prime Minister would find his fox shot to pieces. Even if that did not occur, two can play at populist posturing. The Conservatives in the Lords could vote down the welfare reforms that had split the Labour Party. A de facto alliance between Viscount Cranborne and Dennis Skinner might be improbable but it would embarrass the Government.

The Prime Minister should instead contemplate the lessons of Bosnia: diplomacy and negotiation can be preferable to outright conflict. The Government should initiate a Countryside Commission to examine every aspect of field sports including foxhunting. This would report in time to allow for another debate and vote - a more informed one on all sides - during this Parliament. The fate of the fox must be determined on its merits. It should not be used as a trap for the heriditary peerage.

### THE ENGLISH FOOL

and other delights of the new old cooking

In most countries, the culinary arts are an essential and popular component of national heritage. Indeed, France rarely misses an opportunity, in myth as in braggadocio, to extol its incomparable cuisine. How different from this place across the Channel. English food has been the butt of jokes for so long that most people have forgotten there ever existed a tradition of excellence here. Yet fashion, has rediscovered ancient receipts that once fed the corpulent frames of yeomen and harnessed the fruits of the land in delicious abundance. English fare is the coming cookery trend.

The words alone tease the senses and set the mouth watering: pies and game, haunches and saddles, stews, crumble, fools and puddings. The list suggests foods that are uncomplicated but substantial, dishes that use native ingredients to create the flavours of the English countryside. They conjure up the banqueting of Tudor courts, feasting in medieval monasteries and great palace kitchens where oxen, venison and

boar were roasted in profusion. Old recipe books give vital clues to this lost English culture (Scotland and Ireland naturally have different gastronomic traditions). They are filled with native garnishes that are a far cry from the tarragon and corriander accessories of today's ubiquitous Euro-Med cuisine: prunes and honey, marzipan and currants. butter, wine, salt and mead. The dinners were vast servings of meats and game, fatty broths and elaborately decorated cakes. In damp monasteries and draughty halls our forebears needed a huge intake of calories to keep them warm.

Consider what now passes for new British cuisine it is, in truth, a ragbag of all the dishes of the world, with a pinch of curry, a sprig of basil and a clove of garlic. Very little of this harks back to early cookery books or the magnificent Mrs Beeton. Yet among today's televison cooks there are again some long-forgotten offerings. The Two Fat Ladies, especially, delight in old-fashioned recipes that recall the days when calories were uncountable: and their figures lend

weight to this solid tradition. Other countries, too, are rediscovering the ancestral secrets, before food was fast or prepackaged. Italy is intrigued by the recreation, in print and imagination, of Garguantuan medieval banquets. France is mounting a spirited defence against new. quick dishes that dispense with sauces and tradition. Britain has furthest to go. But there is a fine feast at the end of the quest.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

! Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### Defence business tactics 'not smart'

From Mr Tony Purton

Sir, Earlier this month the Defence Secretary. George Robertson, invited British defence firms to form a "smart procurement partnership" with his Chief of Defence Procurement, to introduce "modern business methods to solve our deep-seated procurement problems".

In my experience, most of the deepseated problems in British defence procurement stem from British industry's inability to honour contractual commitments — eg, the Challenger II tank — and MoD's propensity to let them get away with it.

One wonders how far this trend will develop. Can we look forward to the Home Secretary engaging the leaders of Britain's organised crime syndicates to help him review police crimeprevention procedures - "partners in

In 1980, the chief executive of one of Britain's largest desence companies proposed to the then Defence Secretary that the crippling bureaucracy of formal defence procurement could be swept aside simply by telling each major British defence contractor what his share of the defence budget would be each year, leaving it to the companies to deliver weapons to that value best suited to their individual busi-

ness strategies.
It took that Government two years to see through the idea and decline it; but at least they had the sense to say no. Will our new Government find the maturity to see through this repeat move, 17 years on? There is nothing new in this world — not even "smart procurement".

Yours faithfully, TONY PURTON

(Director of Contracts, MoD, 1988-93), 48 Kent Avenue, Ealing, W13. November 27.

### Tory blight

From Sir David Goodall

Sir, Mr William Hague's dismal rating with his own supporters as well as the country at large treport, Nov-ember 27) should cause serious heartsearching within the Conservative

Party.
With the Left in temporary eclipse, Mr Blair is managing to present the voter with a skilful blend of economic realism, social concern and a modernising but fundamentally respectful attitude to the monarchy - and so, by implication, to the strength of tradition in British life.

Mr Blair's own Christian convic- Trawler recovery tions, unpalatable though they are to many on the Left, have not been disguised. By contrast, Mr Hague's lightweight populism and opportunistic espousal of fashionably progressive attitudes, which to my mind devalue marriage and the family, only alienate traditional Conservative voters without impressing Labour ones.

The Conservative Party certainly needs to heal its internal divisions and moderate the ideological stridency of its right wing; but it would stand a better chance of recovering some of its lost support if it also gave the impression of having values (other than economic ones) which it wants to

Yours faithfully. DAVID GOODALL, Greystones, Ampleforth, York. November 27.

### Tory leadership From Mr John E. Strafford

Sir, What an excellent letter today

from John Horam, MP, on the procedure for election of the leader of the

Conservative Party.

I would only add that when the final two or three candidates are put to all party members on a one person, one vote basis, they should have a minimum of 25 per cent of the votes of MPs. This would ensure that there is substantial support for them within the parliamentary party.

Yours faithfully. JOHN E. STRAFFORD (Chairman, Campaign for Conservative Party Democracy). Perama, Fulmer Road, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire. November 27.

### Cigarette age limit From Mr Paul Mason

Sir, Tessa Jowell (report, "Age for buying cigarettes to be raised to 18". November 27) states that "tobacconists would welcome the change", but for retailers such as myself, simply raising the age limit will have no effect. The onus is still on us to decide a person's age.

What is required is a governmentbacked national identity scheme. This would enable retailers to make a decision without the fear of being thres.tened or prosecuted.

I would never knowingly sell to an under-16, but without an ID card, how are we to know?

Yours etc. PAUL MASON (National spokesman). Tobacco Alliance. Haymarket House. 28-29 Haymarket, SWI. November 27.

Weekend Money letters, page 61

### Lessons of Hampstead traffic horror Car park threat to

From Mr Andy Spring

Sir. The broad range of views expressed in your coverage of the current debate over traffic in Hampstead. North London freports, leading article and Go, November 22) raises some interesting questions.

The experience of the Royal School in Hampstead shows very clearly that if targets for traffic reduction are set. local solutions can be found quickly and easily to meet those targets without in any way limiting mobility. It also shows that there is a great deal of willingness on the part of motorists to participate in such traffic-reduction chemes. Its success is in no way dependent on government or local authorities providing alternatives.

Clearly the provision of alternatives to driving is vital. However, too often this is used as an excuse to shift the responsibility for action on to government: as we sit furning in our traffic jams, we wait for somebody else to take the initiative. We can and must develop our own local alternatives.

The greater danger, as Peter Barnard implies in his article in Go. is that under the Transport Minister's proposals we may have even more buses and trains, but no fewer cars. Between 1981 and 1986 the GLC's fares policy increased public-transport usage but did not decrease the growth in road traffic. Investment in integrated transport must be a part of an overall strategy to reduce traffic, and the health, environmental and social problems it can cause.

ANDY SPRING, Flat 3, 36 Village Road, Enfield, Middlesex. November 24.

From Mr Richard Philips

Sir, One way to curb the menace of commuter parking in residential streets is to impose selective restrictions. A residents-only zone applicable from 8am to 10am would discourage most all-day parkers whilst causing little disruption to local businesses and those visiting the area. The timing of the restriction could be varied to suit local needs - between 2pm and 4pm, for instance.

Far more attention needs to be given to the local needs of residents. I used to live near a five-screen cinema in Chelsea and, in the evenings, when there was most pressure on parking spaces, parking restrictions did not apply. If the parking restrictions had

hour, until 7.30pm. I might have had some hope of finding a space near my house when I returned of an evening.

continued to be enforced for a further

Yours sincerely, RICHARD PHILIPS, 10 Broughton Avenue, Ham, Surrey.

Sir, As an environmentally friendly London car owner and parking-per-mit holder, I recently contacted Westminster Council to ask if I could sell my car and use the permit for hire cars whenever I needed one.

to visit the council offices each time I hired a car to obtain a permit showing the hired car's registration details.

A scheme that allows residents to hire cars occasionally and park them in residents' parking zones without such red tape would surely be a step in the right direction with regard to reducing car ownership?

Maida Vale, W9. crescendosoftware@msn.com November 26.

From the Headmaster of Queens School, Bushev

problems of parking, traffic control and pollution ... state schools must tackle the traffic" (leading article, November 22). I agree.

Mr Blunkett should immediately

alising newspaper editors to dispatch thousands of diesel-belching vehicles every night to distribute their wise

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS NELSON, Headmaster, Bushey, Watford, Hertfordshire. November 24.

operation of the absurd common lish-

eries policy at first hand, I know that

the refusal of the Government to help

the families of those lost on the Sap-

phire has caused much fully justified

It is not too late for a change of

heart, assuming that the Government

local resentment.

has got one.

From Mr Michael Shrimpton

had to pay for it?

Having this month spent 10 days at

### Away from home From Mr John A. Jenkinson

has some very quaint ideas on boarding schools, seeing some of them as open to sexual exploitation and a brutal haven for rejected children.

sexually exploited. The whole ten years' boarding experience was just super fun, in a way that a day school is unable to replicate. We briefly tried day school with our

nine to ten hours a week just travelling. They had scant opportunity for extra activities or for their friends. Why should I condemn them to a

car or coach home, homework, quick solitary playtime (or sadly these days mind-numbing TV) and bed" just because I selfishly want to keep them with me? No, if you're lucky enough to be

home even more. Yours faithfully, JOHN A. JENKINSON,

Old Rectory. Harvington. Evesham, Worcestershire. November 28.

tional in cases such as these.

November 25.

### From Mr Paul Lambert

The response was that I would have

Yours, PAUL LAMBERT, 103 Randolph Avenue,

Sir, "Schools appear indifferent to the

introduce league tables which would allow parents to monitor the traffic policies of schools. Only then will we force these schools to address the key issues which we pay them to address instead of allowing them to waste their energies on such nebulous concepts as "raising standards". Schools should be made to write action plans based on ambitious targets to reduce pollution, failure to achieve which will be treated with zero tolerance.

The world will then be free for morguidance to the nation.

Queens' School, Aldenham Road,

### sea on a Peterhead boat, studying the

Sir, The remarkable effort of the families of the men who went down on the Peterhead fishing vessel Sapphire (report, November 24) to raise £400,000 to fund the recovery is to be applauded, but why should they have

I had always understood that the recovery of the remains of those lost at sea, on a British vessel in British waters, so that they might be given a proper burial in accordance with the wishes of their families, was a function of government.

### Hoffnung recalled

Sir, Like much of the early Hoffnung Sir, Nigella Lawson (November 26) repertoire, Leopold Mozart's "Hosepipe Concerto" (letters, November 26 and 28) first appeared at one of the April Fools' Concerts we gave in I never felt rejected and I was never Liverpool more or less annually for some 25 years from 1952 - this work

children but it meant that they spent

life of "up early, car or coach, lessons,

able to afford it, give them the opportunity of a full life at a good boarding school: they'll appreciate their loving

### Albuquerque to Essex

From Mr Ian Sanders

Sir, I was heartened by the story of the Neuhoff family, fleeing the dreadful conditions in their native Albuquerque (report, November 21; letters, November 25). However, I am surprised that on arrival here they were not imprisoned without trial and then forcibly deported, as seems to be tradi-

Can anybody explain this strange oversight on the part of the immigration authorities?

Yours faithfully, IAN SANDERS, Vanbrugh College, University of York. Heslington, York YOI 5DD. is102@york.ac.uk

### I have the honour to remain, Sir. MICHAEL SHRIMPTON.

Your humble and obedient servant, Chambers of Andrew Thompson and David Guy, Francis Taylor Building,

I had come across a manuscript of

this unutterably feeble - but merci-

fully brief — joke while on holiday in Vienna in 1952. It was not for a garden

hose, of course, but alphorn, or corno

For Hoffnung's concert in the Royal

Festival Hall in 1956 (in which I took

part as principal ocarina and sub-

conductor) the Swiss Embassy lent us

a 24ft alphorn, which was lying back-

stage but for some reason was spurn-

ed by Dennis Brain in favour of his

As you know, Sir, no old music is

too feeble to get on to CD, provided it is "authentic". Your readers might

like to know that at least two versions

now exist, both played on real

Windermere Terrace, Liverpool 8.

Sir, Lord Cranborne (report, Novem-

ber 25) put it beautifully: "It is

absolutely outrageous when a major-

That is exactly how the fox feels.

Letters that are intended

for publication should carry a

daytime telephone number. They

may be sent to a fax number -

0171-782 5046.

e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Yours faithfully.

FRITZ SPIEGL

November 28.

Slightly foxed

ity becomes an oppressor."

From Mr P. Rowley

Yours sincerely,

94 Chippenham Road,

Middlesbrough, Cleveland.

P. ROWLEY,

Easterside,

November 26.

3rd Floor, Temple, EC4. November 26.

From Mr Fritz Spiegl

in 1953.

you get your spectacles" (letters, November 11, 13, 18, 24, 26). Yours faithfully, ANTONY WARREN,

> November 27. From Mr F. E. Hobbs

4 Pearce Close, Cambridge.

Sir, I am advised to remove the dust from the lenses of my binoculars with a camel's hairbrush.

f. e. Hobbs. 120 Bridgnorth Road. Compton, Wolverhampton.

From the Managing Director of Beaver & Tapley Ltd

Yours sincerely.

Sir, To conform with the relevant British Standard, we are obliged to stick labels on to the glass-door cabinets that we manufacture stating: "Do not hit the glass with hard or sharp

Yours faithfully. ROGER RICHARDSON, Manager Director, Beaver & Tapley Ltd, Scotts Road, Southall, Middlesex.

November 26. From Mr R. K. Day

Sir. Instructions printed on the handdrier in the gents' loo in a five-star hotel in Gaborone, Botswana: Shake water off hands. Rub gently under blower. Wipe on shirt.

Yours faithfully, R. K. DAY. Crowsnest House, Crowsnest Lane, Comberbach, Cheshire. November 25.

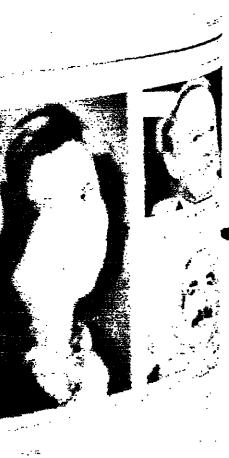
### Warm front?

From Mrs Eileen M. Clarke

Sir. November 28 and my husband is still not wearing his vest. Is this clear evidence of global warming?

Yours faithfully, EILEEN M. CLARKE, Norfields, Greenfield Road. Stonesfield, Oxfordshire. November 28.





ANDRÉ CAMARA



### COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE** November 28: The Baroness Farrington of Ribbleton (Baroness in Walting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon upon the Departure of The Ones, and Departure of The Queen of Denmark and bade farewell to Her Majesty on behalf

of The Queen. **BUCKINGHAM PALACE** November 28: The Princess Royal, accompanied by Captain Timothy Laurence RN, this morning departed from Gatwick Airport. London, to visit Colombia, Peru and Paraguay.

The following were present and took leave of Her Royal Highness: took leave of Her Royal Highness: the Ambassador of the Republic of Colombia (His Excellency Mr Carlos Lemos-Simonds). Minister Counsellor Señorita Maria Landaveri (Depury Head of Mission. Embassy of Peru), Señor Igor Pangrazio (Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of Paraguay) and Sir Michael Pike (Sperial Representative of ael Pike (Special Representative of the Secretary of State for Foreign

and Commonwealth Affairs). The Princess Royal this evening arrived in Bogotá and was received by Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia (His the Republic of Cotomina (Fise Excellency Sir Leycester Columan). Mrs Charles Ritchie and Mr Rupert McGuigan are in anendance.

### Royal engagements

TODAY: Princess Margaret, as President the Guide Association, will attend the North East England Guide Association Advent service in York Minster, at 1.55

TOMORROW: The Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron, Scottish Opera, will attend a Gala Concert, at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh, at

### Dr Myra McCulloch

Lord Carrington, KG, CH, Chancellor of Reading University, at-tended a celebration for the life of Dr Myra McCulloch held yes

Among those taking part were Professor Gwynne Jones and Mr Bryn Jones, brothers, Professor Roger Williams, Vice-Chancellor, Mrs Helen Fisher, soprano, Ms Elizabeth Green, harp, Mr Gwyn Parry-Jones and Mr Nicholas Bannan. Lecturers in the Department of Arts and Humanities in Education, Ms Christine Eden of Bath College of Higher Education, Ms Joan Whitehead, Lecturer, University of the West of England, Professor Roger Mead, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the Rev Robert in Rugby, Dr Rhona Stainthorp. Lecturer. Department of Education Studies and Management **Emeritus Professor Monty Frey** Mrs Mary Fisher, Bulmershe Hall of Residence, Mrs Angela Crum Ewing, Ms Naomi Beer, Professor reen Pope, Dean of the Faculty of Education and Community Studies, Mrs Annette Haworth Director of Computer Services and Pro-Vice-Chancellor, and Brian Fawcett

### Order of the Thistle

Lord Mackay of Clashfern to be a Knight Companion of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle.

### Uppingham School

The Chapel Choir will be presentng a recital of Music for Advent at 3.00pm on Sunday. December 7, in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. Former pupils and other friends of the school are welcome to attend. Tickets are not required.

### Weekend birthdays

TODAY: Professor Sir Ivor Batchelor, psychiatrist, 81; M Jacques Chirac, President of France, 65; Sir Derek Day, diplomat, 70; Mr Tommy Dingwall, former Lord Provost and Lord-Lieutenant of Glasgow, 67; Mr Ryan Giggs, footballer, 24 Professor Sir Michael Howard FBA. historian. 75; Mr Derek Jameson. journalist and broad-caster. 68: Professor Sir Frank Kermode, FBA, former Professor of English Literature, Cambridge University, 78: Mr John Mayall, blues singer, 64: Mr Geoffrey Moorhouse, writer, 66: Dame Shirley Porter, former Lord Mayor

of Westminster, 67; Professor D.W. Rhind, director-general, Ordnance Survey, 54; Mr Toby Robertson, theatre, opera and television director. 69; Mr David Rogers, former chief executive, Amstrad, 51: Mrs Justice Janet Smith, 57: Sir David Steel, former chairman, The Wellcome Trust, 81; Sir John Templeton, financial analyst, 85; Mr Alan Lee Williams, director, The Atlantic Council of the United Kingdom, 67; Ms Louise Winter, mezzo-soprano, 38.

TOMORROW:
Miss Diana Cotton, QC, 56; Mr
Graham Crowden, actor, 75; Mr
George Duffield, jockey, 51; Sir
Victor Goodhew, former MP, 78; Mr Gary Lineker, footballer com-mentator and broadcaster, 37; Mr Radu Lupu, pianist, 52; Lord Parry, 72; Miss Marguerile Porter, ballerina, 49; Sir Stanley Rees, former High Court judge, 70; Mr Max Reinhardt, publisher, 82; Mr John H. Scott, Lord-Lieutenant of Shetland, 71; Lord Tope, 54.

### Service luncheons

HMS Tracker

HMS Tracker
Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, OM.
Chancellor of Oxford University,
attended a luncheon at the Loch
Green House Hotel, Troon, yesterday, after the official naming of HMS Tracker in Troon Yacht Haven by Dame Jennifer Jenkins. Mr David Goodrich, Chairman of British Maritime Technology, was the host. The high speed coastal training craft will be attached to the Oxford University Royal Navy Unit URNU, commanded by Lieutenant Commander Rory McNeile, RN.

Major-General I.S. Baxter. President of the Institution of the Royal Army Service Corps and the Royal Corps of Transport, was the host at a luncheon held yesterday at the Royal Marines Barracks, Chivenor, by courtesy of Lieuten-ant-Colonel R.K. Rowley, RLC, for members from the West of Eng-

### Resignation

Lord Justice Staughton will resign as a Lord Justice of Appeal on

### Service dinners

HMS Northwood Former officers of the HMS Northwood Training Department held their annual ladies night dinner last night at the Savile Club, Lieutenant Commander

Nigel Gares presided. Not Under Command Club Brigadier D. Wilson, RM. Chief of Staff to the Commandant General Royal Marines, was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Not Under Command Club held last night in HMS Excellent. Commander C.J. Kirwin, chairman of the club, presided. Major-General A. Keeling, president of the club, was present.

The Princess of Wales's Royal

The annual dinner of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment Offi-cers' Club was held last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Lieutenant General Sir Anthony Denison-Smith, Colonel of the Regiment, presided.

University of London Air Squadron Air Vice-Marshal C.C.C. Coville Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff Operational Requirements (Air Systems), and Professor R.N. Franklin, Vice-Chancellor of the City University, were the guests of honour at the annual dinner of the nonour at the annual onnier of the University of London Air Squad-ron held last night at the Squad-ron's Town Headquarters. Wing Commander R.J.A. Powell, Squad-ron Commander, presided.

### Dinner British Czech and Slovak

Lord Holme of Cheltenham was the principal speaker at the annual dinner of the British Czech and Slovak Association held last night at the Marlborough Hotel, London

Mr Ladislav Hornan, chairman. presided, and the Ambassadors of the Czech and Slovak Republics were among those present.

### Luncheons International Steel Trade

Association Mr Kenneth Clarke, QC, MP, was

the principal guest and speaker at the annual luncheon of the international Steel Trade Association held yesterday at Grosvenor Mrs Alison Baldwin, chairman,

The King's School, Bruton The annual luncheon of The King's School Bruton Old Boys Associ-ation was held yesterday at Wax Chandlers' Hall, by permission of the Master, Mr Michael Harvey,

Mr Christopher Rhys-Jones, OB, proposed the toast to the



Maura Cahill and Simon Eyre of London who have recently announced their engagement

### University news

Mansfield College

The following have been elected Honorary Fellows of Mansfield Coll-ege, Oxford: ege, Oxford:
Mr Will Hutton, Editor of The
Observer: Sir John Maddox, former
Editor of Nature and former member
of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution; Rabbi Julia
Neuberger, Director of The King's
Fund and Chancellor of Ulster
University; Lord Taverne, QC, former Financial Secretary to the Treasury and founder member of the
SDP.

City University
City University has awarded the following honorary degrees:

Maureen Theobald, furmer Chairman of the English National Board for Nursing and Midwifery and Health Visiting — Doctor of Science. Professor Lesley Rees, former Dean of St Bartholomew's Medical School — Doctor of Science. Dr J. Byng-Hall, consultant child and family psychiatrist. Tavistock Clinic — Doctor of Science. Mr Peter Preston, Editorial Director, Guardian Media Group — Doctor of Letters.

Guardian Media Group — Doctor of Letters. F. G. Jacobs, QC, Advocate General at the Court of Justice of the European Communities — Doctor of Civil Law. Dr Karen Spärck Jones, Reader in the

computer laboratory, Cambridge University — Doctor of Science.

Ms Marion Frank, past President of the Society of Radiographers -Doctor of Science.

Sir David Rowland, Chairman Lloyds' of London - Doctor of Sir John Leahy, past chairman of the University Council — Doctor of Civil

Mr Feike Grit, optometrist and City University Alumnus — Doctor of

Mr Michael Shears, deputy chair-man, Ove Arup Group - Doctor of Mr Gordon Jarvis, chairman and benefactor of the Laban Centre for Movement and Dance — Doctor of

### Weekend marriages anniversaries

BIRTHS: John Ray, naturalist, Black Notley, Essex, 1627; Chris-tian Doppler, physicist, Salzburg, 1803; Louisa May Alcott, author of Little Women, Germantown. Pennsylvania, 1832; Tzu-Hsi. Dowager Empress of China, 1834; Gerunde Jekyll, gardener and landscape architect, London, 1843; Sir Robert Hadfield, metallurgist, Sheffield, 1858; Bushy Berkeley. choreographer. Los Angeles, 1895; C.S. Lewis, writer, Belfast, 1898.

DEATHS: Roger de Mortimer, ist Earl of March, traitor, hanged, drawn and quartered, London, 1330; Thomas Wolsey, Lord Chancellor 1515-29, Leicester, 1530; Prince Rupert, royalist com-mander in the Civil War, London, 1682; Giacomo Puccini, composer, Brussels, 1924; Sir George Robey, comedian, Salidean, Sussex, 1954; Graham Hill, world champion racing driver 1962, 1968, killed in an aircraft crash, near Elstree, 1975: Natalie Wood, acress, drowned, off the island of Caralina, California, 1981: Cary Grant, actor, Davenport, Iowa, 1986. Admiral Richard Byrd made the first flight over the South Pole. 1929.

Yugoslavia was proclaimed as a Federal People's Republic, 1945.

TOMORROW BIRTHS: Andrea Palladio, architect, Padua, 1508: Sir Philip Sidney. poet and soldier, Penshurst, Kent. 1554; John Bunyan, writer and preacher, Elstow, near Bedford, 1628; Jonathan Swift, poet, satirist and pamphleteer, Dublin, 1667; John Toland, philosopher and free thinker, Inishowen, Co Donegal, 1670: Theodor Monumen. historian, Garding, Germany. 1817: Mark Twain, writer, Florida, Missouri, 1835: Sir Paul Vinogradoff. historian, Kostrama, Russian, historian, Kostrama, 1854: Sir Winston Churchill, Prime Minister 1940-45 and 1951-55, Blenheim Palace, 1874; Charles Hawtrey, actor, Hounslow, West London, 1914.

DEATHS: John Selden, lawyer and historian, Whitefriars, 1654; and mstorian, winiestrars, 1054; Sir Peter Lely, portrait painter, Covent Garden, 1680; Maroello Malpighi, physiologist, Rome, 1694; Giambattista Bodoni, type designer, Padua, 1813; James Sheridan Knowles, dramatist, Torquay, 1862; August Bournonville, writer, 1879; Oscar Wilde, dramaist and poet, Paris, 1900; Edward John Evre, explorer in Australia, Tavistock, 1901; Wilhelm Furtwangler, conductor, Baden-Baden. 1954: Beniamino Gigli, tenor, Rome, 1957: Patrick Kavanagh, poet, Dublin, 1967; Sir Compton Mackenzie, writer, Edinburgh, 1972; Sir Terence Rattigan, drama-tist, Hamilton, Bermuda, 1977; Joyce Grenfell, actress and broadcaster, London, 1979. Today is the Feast of St Andrew, the patron

The Crystal Palace was destroyed by fire, South London, 1936.

### Forthcoming

Mr B.L. Noble and Miss A.A. Voigt The engagement is announced between Barry, only son of Rev and Mrs Charles Noble, of San Antonio, Texas, and Asia, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Boern Voigt, of Fredrickshamn, Finland.

Mr K.M. Parry and Miss B.J. Hodgson The engagement is amounted between Max. son of Rev. Parry, of Stourbridge. West Midlands, and Mrs Pamela Parry, of Helsby, Cheshire, and Beverly, daughter of Mr Keith Hodgson, of Stafford, and Mrs Kathleen Hodgson, of Featherstone. Staffordshire. Mr C.A. Rycroft

and Miss K.C. Frennes-Price The engagement is announced between Christopher, younger son of Mr and Mrs Rodney Rycroft, of Maidenhead, Berkshire, and Katharine daughter of the late Mr John Price and of Mrs Cynthia Tyldesley, of Penarth, Wales. Dr P.J.E. Smart

and Miss P.E. Waddingbam The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr and Mrs Smart, of Langton Green, Kent, and Paula, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs G.R. Waddingham, of Swanland, East Yorkshire.

### **Marriages**

Mr P.L. Balie and Miss A.J. Hilton The marriage took place on November 22, at Tabley House, Knutsford, between Paul, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Balle, of daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Macclesfield, and Alison, your Hilton, of Wilmslow.

Mr S. Barrett and Miss R. Mathews The marriage took place on November 28, 1997, at Queen Victoria House, Barkingside, between Mr Strart Barrett, son of Mr and Mrs K. Barrett, of Wanstead, and Miss Rebecta Mathews, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Mathews, of Perth, West-

### Carpenters' Company

em Australia.

Sir Michael Heron has presented the Carpeniers' Company prizes at the Building Crafts College prizegiving held recently at Carpenters' Hall. Prizes were also awarded to the winners of the national classes of the Institute of Carpenters, Carpenters Craft Competition, Mr H. M. Neal, Master, presided.

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### Ambassador to Georgia

Mr Dick Jenkins to be Ambas sador to Georgia, in January, in succession to Mr Stephen Nash who is moving to a new Dip-Iomatic Service appointment

### A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP **ADELPHI**

There may be differences of opinion about Wayne Sleep's merits as a classical stylist; as to his abilities as an entertainer, there can be none. In Sunday's gala at the Adelphi, held in aid of the Friends of One-Parent Families, he was not only coproducer and linkman, but appeared in no fewer than seven items.

These ranged from Balanchine's Tarantella, in which he partnered a sparkling Lesley Collier, to a new Ashton party-piece, Tweedledum and Tweedledee, with Graham Fletcher as Dum and Collier as Alice, A lovely trio this, in which Ashton has caught the true flavour of Lewis Carroll.

Sleep also appeared in a solo from Nijinska's ballet, Le Train Bleu. Created in 1924 for Anton Dolin, who taught it to Sleep, it is a mixture of virtuoso steps and acrobatics.

The programme included two other revivals of early works; Ninette de Valois's *Pride*, performed by Maina

DEATHS

### ON THIS DAY

November 29, 1977

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Wayne Sleep's show was a fast moving musical; some beautiful straight ballet, but also much brilliant larking about and mickey-taking, both verbal and physical. There were scores of children and young people in the audience -as many as adults.

Gielgud and Pavlova's Dragonfly solo, ravishingly danced by Margaret Barbieri. But the main event of the evening was the London premiere of a new Ashton pas de deux to the music of Offenbach's ballet, Le Papillon.

Ashton has ignored the complex plot of the original and has made a charming romantic pas de deux evoking the period of the Second Empire. Beautifully danced by Merle Park, it makes full use of her lightness, her sure technique, and sense

of style. Partnering her, Wayne Eagling seems less secure, and Julia Trevelyan Oman's rather fussy costume does not flatter him. But not all the dancers came from the

Royal Ballet and not all the performers were dancers. London Contemporary Dance Theatre was represented by Robert North and Linda Gibbs in a pas de deux from Robert Cohan's Nympheas, and the musical by Petra Siniawski and Nicki Croydon from A Chorus Line.

Derek Jacobi shared the announcing with Wayne Sleep, while Penelope Keith brought a new look to The Sleeping Beauty, with a forgetful Lilac Fairy. Full marks to her Florimund, Anthony Dowell, the first dancer I have ever seen prompting classical mime. Dowell and John Curry appeared in

the Popular Song from Ashton's Façade and, yes, seen together they do resemble each other. Altogether it was a really enjoyable evening, and I am sure none of the audience slept a wink.

Judith Cruickshank



Wayne Sleep rehearsing in 1994 for his return, after 11 years, to classical ballet

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Observe the kindness and the severity of God - severity to those who fell away, divine kindness to you provided that you remain which its scope; otherwise you too will be cut off. Romens 12: 22

BIRTHS SEADLE - On Thursday 27th November 1997 at 1.55 cm, to Faul Seadle and Michela Hamphraya, a daughter, Lifty, 7ths log. A first grandchild for Rodney and Valerie Readle.

COMMOT - On November 23r at The Portland Respital, to Kristine and Eric, a son, Liam Scott, a brother for Madeleine Eatherine. COMBOY - On Tacaday November 18th in Cambridge, to Clare (nea Pearson) and Joseph, a daughter, Frances Holen.

DAYAL - On November 25th at The Fortland Hospital, to Binits and Shiv, a son, Siddhant, a brother for EVES - On Tuesday 18th November 1997, to jennifer (nde Bentley) and Tony, a daughter, Grace Jennifer, a sister for Annie Alice.

GRIFFERENT - On November 23rd at The Fortland Hospital, to Lisa and Jason, a precious son, Jordan Max. HARRIS - On November 23rd at home in Godalming, to Fenny (née Chester) and Nick, a son, Benjamin, a brother for Georgina, Jessica and Samuel.

MAPEY - On November 22nd, to Rebecce (note Bartlett) and Marthew, a son, Ludovic Edward LODER - On November 19th, to Crossy (não Landless) and David, a daughter, Flora, a sister for Katherine.

AGE - On November 25th, to Marian (née Quhic) and Ken a danghter, Mary Eirabeth, to sister for Christopher Matthew and Dominic. PARE - On November 20th 1997 at Chelsea and Wegtminster Hospital, to Samantha (nés Tromass) and Simon, a son, Louis Gousse Hamston

DEATHS ROWNE - Thomas of Hove on November 25th aged 91. Nuch loved by his family

BIRTHS 8085 - On 26th November a Queen Charlotte's Hospital to Debbie and Graham, a son Samtel Finlay Kenneth, a hpother for Laure-Joan. ALTER - On 23rd November,

SHAH - On 26th November 1997, to Selly (née Romer) and Rabindra, a son, Maximiliza Romer, a brother for Daniel and James. SHEVERIK - On November 25th at The Portland Hospital, to Lydia and Bobdan, a son, Nicholas Bobdan, Welcome to the

STEWART - On November 28th at St Thomas' Hospital, to Georgina (née Smith) and Roge, a daughter, Victoria Alice, a sister for Alexander

TAYLOR - On November 20th to jamet (née Eowerman) and William, a son, Archie George, a brother for Emily and Digby. AMAMERA - On Movember 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Shigers and Yoshiko, a daughter,

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BUTTERWORTH - Edward Alexander, F.R.C.S., peacefully at home en 26th Rovenber, set of 90, beloved husband of Seylla and dearly loved father and geometrice funeral Service at St Nicholas', Barton le-Cley, 2 pm Tuesday 2nd December, Family flowers only, if desired, donations to St Nicholas', Church or RNLL, co Prudence Dauris, Mindpoor-Princer - Jean, would like to these all relatives and friends for their kind messages of sympathy and doubtions received at this sad time, They were very comforting.

CARVER - Peggy died on 27th November 1997 aged 90.1 Beloved mother of Richard and Virginia and grandchildren Andrew and jooslys all living in Canaba. Pengral Survice to be held on Thursday December 4th at Kevil Parish Church at 3.15pm. All enquisies please to Winecheombe Funeral Service (01380) 722500.

BRUCE-GARDNER - On 25th
November peacefully at
home after a short final
ilhess, Sir Douglas BrocGardner St. aged 80. Seleved
husband of Sheile (afe
Stilliard) and former
husband of Monico Clark
(nos Jeffenson). Buch loved
father of Judith, Robert,
Tanh, Journa and Graham. A
loving grandfather and
great-grandfather.
Cremation private but a
service in calebration of his
life will be held at St
Dubriclus Church,
whitchnuch, new Rost on
Wys, Herefordshire on
Thursday 4th December at
12 noon. Family flowers
only, but if desired
donations to R.M.L. or
British Heart Foundation
may be sent to David
Stockwell, Funenal Director,
16 Glendower Street,
Memmonth NF5 3DG.

DEAN - On 26th November 1997, peacefully at home after a short linear, The Rev Canon Desmond Keable Dean MA BD, aged 91. Beloved husband and partner for 63 yants of Constance and dear father, grandfather and greatgrandfather at St. Mary's Church, Hallaham, East Sunser, followed by build in Hallaham Cameray, Rumlly Howers only please but doubtlems if desired for the Church Peatoni Ad Society and the London City Mission, to both of whom he was most indebted, may be sent to Hallaham Paneral Service, 11 Station Road, Hallaham, East Sunser, RECT ZEE "Wee is muto me, if I preach not the gospell" (1 Corinthians 9 v 16).

FLACK - Louise Lea much loved friend died on 27th November at 6 Britannia House, Marina Bay, Gibraltar. Aged 84. The funital will be held at 12 noon on Monday Ist December at 5t Theresa's Church, Gibraltar, followed by cremation in Marbella, Spain. Louise will be sadly missed by her many close friends. Donations would be appreciated for Cancer Baile Cibraltar (Macmillan Nurses) at Lady Williams Cantre, Devil's Tower Road, Cibraltar. All enquiries to H. Codall Ltd. (Funeral Directors) at 11-32 Convent Maca. Cibraltar. (Tel. 00 350 75747).

FOME - Leonard William, husband, father and grandfather, passed sway at home on 22nd November 1997. "Sweet is the sleep that ends all pain"

JONES - Arthur Lt. Col. (ex EA, ex RAEC). Bom Punyposes, Caspiarvonshire 12th April 1910 died Oswestry, Shropshire on 26th November 1997 after a kmg, happy and full life. Granify loved and sadly missed by his wife Kathleen, by his children Glyn, Megan and Dylan and by his grandchildren Holly and Richard, Ben and Ian, Hesther and Nick. Fossal 2pm Wadnerday 3rd December at the Crementolium, Pentrebrythan, Wrezham. No Howers please but denations, if destred, to the EWIL Enguiries to David Davies & Sons (01691) 653116.

LE GRAND - On November Zöhl, quistly at home josn beloved mother of Novi and Caroline, grandmother of Samh and Peter No Invers plage, donations if wished to Action Research, Vincent House, North Parade, Hersham, RR12 2DF. Puteral on Wednesday 3rd December at 2.30 pm at Mortlake Crematorium, Toxumeed Road, Elchmond.

MECSTRAW - Much respected incorporated insurance Broker - suddenly on November 24th, 1997 and of Ashton-under-Lyne, Thomas Edward Results, aged 66 years, the dearly loved heeband of Mangaset, much loved Ded of Andrew, Louise and Jacqui, much loved Ded of Market heeband grandpa of Damien, Rebecta, vaness, Damielle, Recol and Marvin. Service at Holy Trinity Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Menday, 1st December at 3.15 ym, followed by committed at Dukinfield Crematorium. Rundly Howers only please, denactions in lieu if desired Dukiniidid Crematorium. Rungly Howant only please, donations in lieu if desired to MENCAP. Enquiries Kenworthy's Puneral Seavice, tal: 0161 330 1621.

MELSON - On 27th Nevember 1997 John Richard Melson after a brave fight against cancer. Beloved husband of Faula, dearly loved and loving father of Linds and Sarah Funeral Service at the Church of St Faul, Weldingham, on Thunsday 4th December at 2 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Harsetone Marie Curie Centre of Royal Manadem Hospital, Sutton Remech e/o BC. Saker 7/8, 15-17 Eigh Street, Cabrison, CR3 SUE, (01883) 343219. RDSR - Arthur on November 22nd in Watford General Hospital aged 88. Fursial at 8t James Parish Church, Bushey, at 12. noon on Thursday Decamber 4th. Family flowers only but charitable donations, if desired to Christ's Hospital, Hornham, c/o Bellard & Marchant Ltd., 11 King Street, Watford, WDI SRT. A Mexagrial Service will be held at CR in the Law Term. Dime to be announced.

RAYNER - Eathleen Dock (née Barding) peacefully on Wednesday 26th Kovember 1997 aged 95 years. Widow of Dr. E.L. (Bill) Raynes, General Practitioner in Twickenham, Middlesses. Funeral Service at St. Mary's Parish Church, Twichstham, on Wednesday 3rd Documber at 10.45 am, followed by cremation at South West Middlesses Crymaterium at 11.45 am, All enquiries to Andrew Holmes & Son F/S, tal: (0181) 572-8277. SELIGIMAN - On Thursday, 27th November, 1997, Marji Adelaide, widow of her beloved Geoffrey, dear mother of Jill, Charles and David, adoring grandmother, twin sister to Claire. Femeral on Tuesday, 2nd December 1997 at Golders Green Crematorium, Hoop Lane, Louden WYLL No Howers by request.

SHAW - Lt. Col. Francis
Michael (Freddie) on
Movember 26th aged 82 in
Solvenber 26th aged 82 in
Solvenber District Hospital
peacefully after a short
limes. Beloved hasband of
the late Mary and father of
Jame. Funeral Service at
Soyton Church on Thunday
4th December at 230 pm.
Family flowers only but
donations if desired to Soyni
Strick Legion of Lin.
Newman, 55 Winchester
Street, Selfsburg, 571 1HL STLERE - Jon disringuished peet, critic and foundarscitor of Stand Magazine, died in hospital in Newcastle spen Type on November 25th after a brief libers. The funeral has taken place at Bushey Cometer, Herta No flowers, any donations to Annessy International.

The transfer of the second second

TREE - On Movember 24th 1997, Lilian, aged 96 years. A much loved wife of Doctor john Entherford Tree, retired G.F. and former Folice Surgeon, Funeral Service Surgeon. Femeral Service-takes place at Sedford Camatedium, Nones Ened, on Totaday 2nd December at 3.15 pm. Flowers to Amolds Funeral Service, Roff Avenue, Bedford MK41 7TE, oat (01234) 359529.

TURNBULL - On 27th
November. Percefully in
Devon RM. (Dick) Turnbull.
Much loved husband of
Wendy. father and
grandiather to all his family.
"GOM". Pamily funeral. No
letters or flowers please.
Raquiries to Parring funeral
Services (01803) 862417. OPER - Dr. William George (Tim) of Cambridge, on November 26th

HEGGE - Dr. James Fergeson BED FECFATH FRSE November 29th 1990. Hughand of Mary. Lemenbered overy day with despect love and sumirgion. MIZPAL

IN MEMORIAM --

AHODES - In memory of Jammetts Lesly Photes (née Noukes) who died 28th November 1987, Much loved and missed mother of Martin, Kirsten and Andrew. BIRTHDAYS

SHEELA WALKER birthday on Nov. 30, 1997. With love from Terry, Mex, Andrew, Karen, Charlotte, Jolie, Simon &

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WE OWE A LOT TO OUR SOLDIERS Who Eght for an guillidin ANNOUNCEMENTS irene luture. Some lei Op hard times. We need your help to help them Supplessions park. Good luck for Supplessions Park. Good luck for 1998 and thunks for choosing the KING of CLUBS! lagacy later will help soldiers, tex aciditers and their Carifos in near BENEVOLENT FUND

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DAN FARSON

Note 1 Name

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### Forthcom OBITUARIES marriage -

Daniel Farson, writer, broadcaster

and photographer, died on November 27 aged 70. He was born on January & 1927.

self-confessed celebrity snob, Dan Farson was a rumbustious alcoholic whose fortune it was to have known many of the most famous artistic figures of his day. His startlingly frank autobiography, Never A Normal Man, published in 1997, resem-bles a heap of heterogenous jigsaw pieces, each a part of the puzzle of someone else's life. Farson counted among his acquaintances such people as Noël Coward, John Osborne, Graham Sutherland, Orson Welles, Tennessee Williams, Colin Wilson

and Somerset Maugham.

But it was for his association with Landon's Soho and his friendship with Francis Bacon, which was nurtured there, that Farson was to become best known. In the 1940s Soho was a bohemian outpost undisturbed by the war, a place as alive and exciting in its way as Isherwood's Berlin or the Rive Gauche in Paris. For a homosexual, growing up in an era when practising homosexuality was a crime, it was a paradise. There were no rules to be broken because there were no rules and none of the conventions regarding money. age, class or sex which curbed the rest of Britain," Farson wrote.

In the dens and drinking houses of this island of liberalism, Farson cemented an enduring friendship with Bacon and with the circle of painters who, during the 1950s at least, were associated with him -Lucian Freud, Michael Andrews and Frank Auerbach. "I consider it my greatest luck," Farson once said, "to have known Francis Bacon, to have really known the man by whom our times will be judged." His biography of Bacon, The Gilded Gutter Life (1993), if not the most comprehensive portrait of the great painter, was certainly the one which best captured the spirit and essence of the man. A film of Bacon's life, to be released next year, has been based on it.

Yet, though customarily self-deprecating. Farson had himself enjoyed a diverse and successful career. A pioneer of the live interview, he became a nationally recog-nised television personality in the 1950s and 1960s. "You're my son's favourite," a woman once wrote to him. "As soon as he knows you are coming on, he shaves and puts on a clean shirt to watch you." But Farson shrugged off small screen fame as spurious and artificial".

Recklessly optimistic and financially feckless, Farson time and again cast his fate to the winds. His life see-sawed between triumph and adversity - both swilled down alike with a glass of champagne. Perhaps the only thing which he treated with seriousness was his writing - it was certainly the only thing for which he remained sober. He was a



Regulars at the bar of the York Minster pub ('the French House') in Soho (left), a typically evocative photograph of bohemian life by Dan Farson

considerable (if careless) journalist, as Worsthorne to Canada. Starting off at well as a biographer and author of travel

Soho always remained Farson's spiritual home. Even in his last years, living and writing in a fisherman's cottage in North Devon, he would make periodic journeys back there. Old friends, and newer aficionados eager to meet the man who once knew Bacon, would find him in one of his habitual haunts, a small, sturdy figure slumped on a bar stool, his jowls his outing had caused. snuggling comfortably into his neck, as he slowly drank himself into unintelligibility and then oblivion.

The only child of Negley Farson (in his time an author, American foreign correspondent and alcoholic of some reknown). Daniel Farson travelled the world and its watering holes at his father's side. He remembered Gandhi coming to his family home in Walton Street, and Hitler patting him on the head as "a good Aryan child" when his father was covering a speech at Garmisch and the streets of Munich were fluttering with swastika flags.

During the Second World War Farson, then at Abinger Hill School in Dorking, was evacuated along with such schoolfel-lows as Nicholas Mosley and Peregrine

Ashbury College, Ottawa, he found himself passed around like a parcel between Montreal, Chicago, New York and Oregon. He was introduced to Somerset Maugham by his wealthy homosexual godfather Tom Seyster (who later, unfortunately, left all his money to an American Marine). Farson returned from the encounter blithely untarnished and quite unaware of the sexual tensions

Returning to England in 1942 - on the ship he was pursued by a lascivious Bishop of Hong Kong — Farson completed his education at Wellington College. The school, with its militaristic values, was an "aberration", he said, and he persuaded his parents to allow him to leave in 1944 to study Russian at the School of Slavonic Studies instead. There he discovered that he had little gift for

At the age of 17, in a stroke of luck, he was offered a job with the Central Press Agency and sent, as probably the youngest ever lobby correspondent, to the House of Commons - "the best club in London," Farson said. He followed Churchill on his 1945 election campaign and, in

1946, reported the inaugural assembly of the United Nations.

"One of the more bizarre aspects of my life," Farson once said, "is the way it has veered from triumph to disaster without my recognising the difference." A year later, called up as a draftee into the American Army Air Corps -- he had dual nationality which he wished to preserve he found himself instead reporting the birth of a staff sergeant's baby in a US Army news-sheet. But he enjoyed his military service and it left him with, if nothing else, an abiding delight in men in uniform

Under the GI Bill of Rights, Farson was sent to Pembroke College, Cambridge. The degree meant little to me and I realised at once that the whole point of university was to squander every precious second to my advantage." Yet the magazine that he founded there, Panorama, unearthed some of the writing talent of future decades, Peter Shaffer, Julian Slade and the Oxonian Kenneth Tynan included. It gained sufficient reputation to be launched as a national magazine but, despite a tentative offer from a publisher, Farson decided to call it a day, whether "from cowardice or the dread of being

caught in a rut," he later said, he did not

On the strength of his success, however, Farson was offered work as a staff photographer on Picture Post - a job which brought him into contact with such figures as Noël Coward, Graham Greene, Brendan Behan, Robert Graves (whom he detested as a domineering bully) and Salvador Dali. He took a prize-winning photograph of the last, a double exposure which seemed a deliberately surreal shot of the great Surrealist, but in fact, Farson later admitted, was the accidental result of a jammed camera. He made a name for himself as a master of the quick-witted snapshot and was later to be given

exhibitions of his work. When eventually Farson was sacked after an imprudent photoshoot involving his naval deserter boyfriend, two cantankerous girls and a pair of donkeys, he decided, after a brief spell working for Harper's Bazaar, to join the Merchant Navy. Over-age and under-experienced, he could find work only as utility steward - "the lowest of the low" - and as such he circumnavigated the globe, dishcloth in hand. He acquired a tattoo on his hand, of a great white shark, disparagingly re-

C. GORDON TETHER

ferred to by Francis Bacon as "Dan's

Returning to England in the mid-1950s. Farson had another lucky break when he gained employment with Associated-Rediffusion. On the weekly current affairs programme, This Week, he made a name for himself as an interviewer who pulled no punches. The public's insatiable appetite for documentaries allowed a freedom of speech unthinkable today," he subsequently explained. He himself aimed for spontaneity, interviewing, as he

did, across the broadest spectrum of life. He confirmed his reputation with the groundbreaking series, People in Trouble, which was followed by Out of Step, a light-hearted look at minorities. In 1960 he made Farson's Guide to the British and later he had a series called Dan Farson

Meanwhile, Farson had made his home on the Thames at Limchouse in London's East End. Lying late in bed on Saturdays he would hear the loudspeaker announcements from passing tourist boats: "And this is Limehouse, notorious for its haunts of vice and dens of opium and now the home of TV personality Dan Farson." His study of Jack the Ripper arose from his exploration of the area. He also made a programme, Time Gentleman Please!. on pub entertainment in the East End.

With impetuous enthusiasm he himself bought a pub. The Waterman's Arms, which he ran with old-fashioned musichall entertainments. Customers included Bacon, William Burroughs, Jacques Tati, Clint Eastwood, Judy Garland, Lady Diana Cooper, the Kray twins and throngs of locals. Then in 1964, growing weary of the world of television, Farson gave everything up to write. He was broke at the time. The pub, he claimed, had been such a success that no one had been able to get to the bar to buy a drink.

His parents by now dead, he went to live in their old home, The Grey House in Devon, selling off his possessions including paintings by his friends which, had he waited, would have sold for hundreds of thousands - to finance his writing. Eventually, and with great reluctance, he had to sell the house itself, moving to a contage in Apledore with views over Baggy Point and sands where he daily bathed and walked his dogs. He still worked, somewhat desultorily, as a journalist: he had 18 months as the first food writer for The Sun, and in 1986 he joined The Sunday Times as a profile writer. Later he was the television critic for The Mail on Sunday and in 1990 became its art correspondent.

He still maintained a strong interest in the arts, accompanying Gilbert and George to Moscow in 1991, a trip which he recorded in a book. He continued to travel even in his last years. An exhibition of his photographs was held earlier this year at the Roy Miles gallery in London.

### ROBERT WOOF

Robert Woof, Labour died on November 27 aged 86. He was born on October 24, 1911.

BOB WOOF represented a type of Labour MP who will never again be seen at Westminster. He went straight from the coal-face to the House of Commons, and his 23-year parliamentary career was marked by unquestioning loyalty to his party and his

He lived to see the election by an overwhelming majority a Parliamentary Labour Party in which he would have been completely out of place, and the union to which he owed his advancement decline to a pale shadow of its former strength.

FOR SALE

POSTCODE



Woof was born into a mining family and it was inevitable that he should enter the coal industry as soon as he left elementary school at the age of 14. Just as inevitable was his adherence to the Labour Party and the National Union of

Mineworkers. He served on from 1947 until 1956, when he entered the Commons as MP for Blaydon.

The seat had become vacant through the death of William Whiteley, Labour's former hard-line Chief Whip who held his office throughout the reforms of the Attlee Governments of 1945-51 and who was an unhappy witness to the beginnings of the Bevanite insurrection. At the selection conference Woof easily beat a eading Bevanite ex-MP.

Sam Watson was leader of the Durham miners during the early part of Woof's Comcareer, and his Gaitskellite line was generally followed by the new MP. Like most of the NUM nominees, Woof spoke rarely in the

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

House but was content to add Labour benches that the "knights of the shire" supplied to the Tory ones.

He was one of the few politicians of his time to emerge successfully from a libel action. With Tom Urwin, another Labour MP, he was awarded damages and costs against Thomson Regional Newspapers as the result of an article written by George Gardiner, then a provincial lobby correspondent but later to become Sir George Gardiner, the Conservative MP for Reigate who left the Tories and fought the last election

dum Party candidate. Woof was married to Mary Bell, who died in 1971. He is survived by their daughter.

TRUSTEE ACTS

unsuccessfully as a Referen-

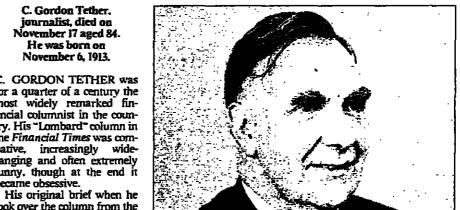
C. Gordon Tether, November 17 aged 84. He was born on November 6, 1913.

C. GORDON TETHER was for a quarter of a century the most widely remarked financial columnist in the country. His "Lombard" column in the Financial Times was combative, increasingly wideranging and often extremely funny, though at the end it became obsessive.

took over the column from the late Paul Einzig in 1949 was, as its title suggests, to comment on the money and currency markets. But Tether, though a quiet and somewhat reclusive man, held many passionate convictions about much larger matters, and he steadily widened his scope to include sermons or saures and

to give his hobby-horses an outing. He preached sound money. the gold standard and more generous aid to the poorest countries. But his pet hates made the biggest impact: at-

tacks on financial double-talk



(especially from officials), American domination - and, above all, on the Common Market. (Compared with Tether, today's Europhobes are all moderates.)

His moral sermons met the usual fate of sermons - respectfully noted, and ignored - but his satires could draw blood. The most memorable was his invention of the Central Bankers' Academy at Hetheringstoke (modelled shamelessly on Beachcomb-

er), where the Principal lec-

tured on bankmanship and congratulated those students who had most notably succeeded in confounding their politicians.

Unhappily, however, a life-time of ineffective campaigning (often against the editorial line of his own newspaper) left Tether embittered. Although he remained personally polite and even courtly, his writing became repetitive and increasingly shrill, as he accused his opponents of idiocy or even outright lying. Some of these columns his editors rejected. make the suggested changes

Finally he asserted an absolute right to editorial immunity: he could put what he pleased in the column he had occupied for so long. This proved not to be negotiable; so the Financial Times, which until then had been a notably tolerant employer, offered him immediate retirement on full pay, and with full pensions rights. Tether treated this as an assault on freedom of speech, and went to a tribunal asserting unfair dismissal, but after a 45-day hearing this

proved another lost cause. Although he collected his unpublished columns in a book, and found a new platform for his views in The Observer for a year (and more recently in The European) his main career was effectively

(and sadly) over. He married Marjorie in 1938 and they were divorced in 1953, the year he married his second wife, Iris, who died in 1993. He is survived by two sons from his first marriage and a son and daughter from the second.

### PERSONAL COLUMN



# TUITION FLATSHARE ALKER BOSE EMILY of 57

### **MILESTONES**

Robert Simpso composer, died on November 21 aged 76. He was born on March 2,

Robert Simpson was one of

the most prolific and rigorous British composers of the past 50 years. By nature a traditionalist, he found himself often at odds with the Modernists who came to dominate the postwar musical Establishment. His principles were eloquently stated not only in the symphonies and string quartets which form the backbone of his own output, but also in his work over many years as a somewhat beleaguered producer at BBC Radio 3, where he championed such composers as Nielsen and Bruckner. Obituary published on

Michael Hutchence, rock singer. was found dead in his hotel room in Sydney on November 22 aged 37. He was born on January 22, 1960.

Coming from a middle-class Australian home, Michael Hutchence had a peripatetic

November 22.

childhood, living in Hong Kong, where he picked up his English accent, and Los Angeles. Back in Sydney in 1977, he became lead singer with a band known as the Farriss Brothers, which became



INXS the following year. They developed a driving sound that combined rock, dance and soul, and spent the next four years travelling across Australia, playing up to 300 dates a year. Their best album. Kick, was in the British charts for more than two years at the end of the 1980s, but then fashion left them behind. Hutchence. however, remained in the

tabloid eye as the lover of Kylie Minogue, Helena Christensen and eventually of Paula Yates, who last year bore his child, legally named Heavenly Hiraani Tiger Lily. Obituary published on November 24.

Dr Hastings Banda, first President of Malawi, died on November 25. His death certificate declared him to have <del>been 99.</del> Hastings Banda attended a

Church of Scotland mission-

ary school until, at the age of 12, he set off for South Africa. taking jobs as he walked the 1,000 miles. While working as a hospital deaner he decided to become a doctor. By 1923 he had saved enough to go to the United States. and he became the only nonwhite student at the University of Chicago, taking a degree in history and political science. He qualified in medicine at Edinburgh and practised in Liverpool and North Shields, before settling down in 1949 as a National Health GP in Willesden. In the 1950s he was invited back

to Nyasaland where he be-

came president general of the Nyasaland African Congress, and in 1964 he became Prime Minister of the newly independent Malawi. He was unpopular with other African leaders because of his links with apartheid South Africa, and he crushed opposition ruthlessly. His long rule saw prosperity in his backward country increase, only to fall back at the



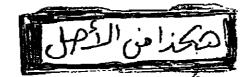
end of the 1970s as commodity prices collapsed. He was ousted in 1994, in his country's first fully democratic elections for 33 years. Obituary published on November 27.

26 EQUITY PRICES	·	THE TIMES SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29 1997
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Gentlemen's clubs are reinvented

# BUSINESS

WEEKEND SECTION2 PAGES 51-64

**BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft** 

-SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29 1997

# Cabinet backs plan to save coal industry

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

THE GOVERNMENT is looking at detailed plans to save the coal industry, amid the growing controversy over impending pit closures and the loss of thousands of jobs. An initiative from No 10

Downing Street looks at measures to ensure the industry's survival over the next five to seven years. These could include pushing up coal stocks at electricity generators and altering the balance of use between gas and coal.

Richard Caborn. Minister for the Regions and John Prescott's number two at the Department for the Environment, Transport and the Regions, has been given a key role. The move reflects the Cabinet's concern over the coal crisis in the wake of warnings from the Deputy Prime Minister on the consequences of allowing the industry go to the wall.

Measures to support coal over the medium term would not halt all the pit closures expected to be announced soon by RIB Mining, the UK's biggest coal producer. But they would ensure the future the industry and about 40.000 jobs. Next year 10,000 jobs could go - 5,000 from pit closures and 5,000 in related industries.

Mr Caborn has been involved not only as Mr Pres-cott's right-hand man but because he chaired the last Trade and Industry committee on coal. He is also in charge of opencast mining policy. Labour sources say that many of the recommendations from the committee's inquiry will be reinstated. They include making the generators stockpile coal and giving government

support to clean-coal technology - ways to reduce coal's

emissions in generation. The move takes the issue beyond the Department of Trade and Industry, which has been widely criticised for not establishing an energy policy and for allowing the present crisis to develop without offering any future for coal. The looming pit closures have been triggered by a fall in the market for RJB's coal as generators have switched to gas or imported coal or bought

it from smaller producers.
Mr Caborn is believed to have given warning that if nothing is done for coal now then the Government would face another crisis when the bulk of RJB's new contracts expire in three years, close to a general election.

The Government is looking at maintaining deep-mine coal production at about 20 million tonnes a year over the next five to seven years, compared with 31 million tonnes this year. After three years it is expected



market demand for coal will drop to ten million tonnes. So the Government is looking at providing a need for ten

million extra tonnes a year. Ironically for RJB, some of the extra need for deep-mined coal could come from a reduction in opencast coal, an operation in which the com-

pany is strongly involved. Mr Caborn is expected to report soon on new planning provisions needed for opencast mining, which is detested which would lead to a gradual reduction in output from

opencast pits.

Di Yesterday RIB made 78 miners redundant at Clipstone colliery in Nottinghamshire as it reduced output. It asked for volunteers but said that it would make selections if not enough men came forward.

The move is seen by the unions as reassuring for the future of the colliery since yesterday's cuts would not have been made if a full closure was in the offing.

RJB meets on Monday to

start drafting plans for the closure of collieries.

There was confusion yesterday over whether RJB, represented by Richard Budge, its chief executive, will be at next week's Trade and Industry committee investigation into coal. The committee had not invited the company to attend because it had asked the trade assocation to attend instead. But a spokesman for Martin O'Neill, the committee chairman, said that Mr Budge could appear if he wanted.

Commentary, page 29



Fortune fades: the share price fall wiped £9.25 million off Alan Sugar's Viglen stake

### Viglen less sweet for Sugar

By Fraser Nelson

ALAN SUGAR, the founder of Amstrad, yesterday saw £9.25 million wiped from the value of his remaining holding in Viglen Technology after the newly demerged PC-maker warned the market that it was suffering from stiff competition in the Christmas market.

The warning, which comes three months after Viglen's market debut, sent its shares down 31 per cent to 50p. This leaves the company worth £61 million, compared with its £73 million value at the time of the demerger. It said it was still selling about 85,000 computers a year, but blamed "oversupply of compon-

ents" for a drop in profits. City analysts now ex-

pect the company to make £11.5 million profit this year, against the £12.4 million expected when the company floated. Viglen singled out the drop in memory chip prices, saying the cost of the Ram memory used for its computers has plunged 35 per cent in the past month.

Mr Sugar planned to cut his holding from 33 per cent to 10 per cent, but changed his mind in August, saying the 60p issue price was too cheap. His decision has cost him £4.1 million. Viglen started off in the home of Vig Boyd and Len Davis, Armenian computer engineers, in 1965. It was bought by Amstrad three years ago

### Walker Wingsail chairman confident

of victory

HUNDREDS of small investors in Walker Wingsail Systems, which has spent £12 million developing boats with metal sails, have rallied to support John Walker in his battle against an attempt to force him to resign as the company's chairman.

Mr Walker, who has spent much of the past 30 years working on his idea, is confi-dent of defeating a group of dissident shareholders at to-day's annual meeting at the Devonport naval dockyard in Plymouth.

He said yesterday that he had received about 1,200 proxy votes backing the adoption of the latest Walker Wingsail accounts, and only

200 against.
Mr Walker is expecting about 330 shareholders to turn up to today's meeting, which, at the eleventh hour, has been moved to a specially erected marquee within the dockyard itself. Although his opponents include some of the company's wealthier and larger shareholders, he still expects to win comfortably.

Once helped along the way

with backing from Prudential. Walker Wingsail has struggled for years to commercialise the wingsail technology -aircraft-style wings which, when mounted vertically and controlled by computer, are said to make sailing easier. His critics complain of Mr

Walker's repeated failure to keep to his business plan forecasts, which has required him to regularly return to shareholders for more money. Walker Wingsail has about 6,700 investors - more than some quoted companies. Many seem to be engineers or others excited by the potential and demerged in August. Tempus, page 31 of the wingsail idea.

**BUSINESS TODAY** 

STOCK MARKET INDICES US HATE

LONDON MONEY

New York: SSS S DOLLAR

Tokyo close Yen 127,66 NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Feb) \$18.90 (\$18.70) GOLD London close ..... \$296.95 (\$296.00)

### Further woe at Laura Ashley

THE WOES of Laura Ashley continued yesterday after Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the fashion and textile retailer's house broker, warned the market that the company will face a £15 million loss this year - double the £7 million it was expected to lose.

The downgrade triggered a further 8.7 per cent plunge in the shares, which closed at 41p, as City analysts began to fear a serious cashflow crisis which can only be resolved through a rescue rights issue.

### Errors in 29% of DIY tax forms

By CLARE STEWART

AROUND 29 per cent of the new self-assessment tax forms. have been incorrectly completed, according to the Inland Revenue. Six per cent — or 300,000 forms — have had to be returned to taxpayers.

The level of errors will renew concern over the complexity of the new forms, although the Revenue said that errors on 1.15 million forms were minor, and were corrected by staff. On forms returned, errors included simple mistakes such as the taxpayer forgetting to sign it.

The Revenue has played down fears that taxpayers are struggling to understand self assessment. With five million orms returned out of eight million sent out in April, a spokesman said: "We are pleased with progress." The Revenue had estimated that up to 45 per cent of forms might be wrongly completed, with up to 10 per cent having to be sent back.

### Tokyo looks at banking bailout

FROM CARL MORTISHED IN TOKYO

considering a major restructuring of the Trust Fund Bureau, the body responsible for financing large infrastructure projects, to secure funds to bail out Japan's troubled

hanking industry.
Officials in the Ministry of Finance are believed to be looking at a number of options that could include the sale of

land holdings. The Trust Fund Bureau, which is under the authority of the ministry, has backed huge infrastructure projects with funding from postal savings and pensions. However, it is believed that a substantial number of the loans are not paying interest. Some Y55-trillion (£250 billion) is be-

lieved to be under water ... The ministry is believed to be keen to use the Trust Fund Bureau and its postal savings money to help to restructure the debt-laden banking industry, which recently suffered

THE Japanese Government is four failures, including that of Yamaichi Securities.

Use of postal savings to shore up problem banks would meet with opposition. The Trust Fund Bureau's bad debts need to be addressed to secure more funds from postal savings. The Finance Ministry is believed to be considering packaging the debts and shifting them to the General Account. No decisions have been made, but one possibility is a change in legislation that would permit the sale of forest-

ry and valuable land holdings. The Government's dilemma stems from high levels of public debt and fears that weakness in the financial sector could raise the cost of public borrowing. Observers believe that Japan faces a growing crisis because the current level of long-term debt is believed to be nearing ten times the level of retained tax earnings. The equivalent US

### **Barclays** shuts BZW in Japan

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

BARCLAYS has announced the closure of the Japanese equities arm of BZW, the investment banking division it is in the process of selling, with the loss of 100 jobs.

The move reduces the bank's staff in Japan to 450. Barclays insisted the move was a direct result of its decision to sell the equity. capital markets and mergers and acquisition activities of BZW last month.

The bank has already come under fire for selling BZW's European business to Credit Suisse First Boston at a low price of £100 million. It said it had been unable to get a good price for the Japanese equities business because it had not included its membership of Japan's three main stock exchanges in the deal. However. the bank is in talks with several banks interested in buying BZW's Asian and Australasian businesses.

### **SIEMENS**

### Oh...pink fluffy slippers! How novel. And with a little piggy motif too. Super. This Confistmes, get to Senta before the gets to you. Ask for the new Stemens \$10, which has just been voted the Best Business Mobile in the World by Connect magazine and which comes with 10 hours. telytime, the world's first calour display and a voice means function. Better Talknology Imm



### AWEEK IN THE CITY



turned, the com-P pany that brews a certain Irish stout was in the news as the report into the infamous Guinness affair finally saw the light of day Il vears after the Distillers takeover, while the Guinness corporate name was voted into oblivion after 240 years. Monday saw a member of the reclusive Barclay family make a rare public appearance, although it was neither of the Barclay twins, David and Frederick but David's

Barday fils took the stand at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court in an attempt to persuade the gaming authorities to grant a new casino licence to the Ritz. the C5 million jewel in the Bardays' crown, when London Clubs moves out

A decision is not due until next month, but the opposition of the Gaming Board against him.

The City felt the effects of the mounting crisis in Japan. as Yamaichi, the country's fourth largest broker, col-lapsed under a Y3.2 trillion (£15 billion) mountain of debt. The crash, announced by a sobbing Shohei Noz-awa, president of Yamaichi. sent a chill through world financial markets, and spelt the end of 300 jobs at the

In the circumstances, the rejection by Allied Colloids of a £L1 billion bid from Hercules, a rival chemicals group from America, created comparatively few ripples. Gordon Brown, the Chan-

firm's London HQ.

cellor, took a further step in his efforts to woo big business by unveiling plans to abolish advance corporation tax and cut the rate of corporation tax in his pre-Budget speech to the Commons. The welcome his comments received was in

means the odds are stacked marked contrast to the treatment his calls for pay restraint received from the Post Office: it announced a 4 per cent pay deal with its 160,000 mail workers.

Not so lucky were the 5,000 or so miners who are expected to be given their marching orders before Christmas as RJB Mining closes more pits. The Guinness EGM on

Wednesday to approve the £23 billion merger with Grand Metropolitan became a vehicle for disgruntled shareholders keen to attack Tony Greener, chairman, over the choice of Diageo as the new drinks behemoth's

support of proxy votes.

The next day, ironically

However, a rather embarrassing split vote in the audience failed to make a dent on the overwhelming

the same day as the annual

Guinness and oysters bash

at Mansion House, saw the

publication of the eagerly awaited report into the 1986 Distillers scandal. As expected, Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chief executive, came in for a pounding but of greater significance was the doubt cast by the report over the evidence given by David Mayhew, a senior partner in Cazenove. the blue-blooded City stock-

In a damning indictment of the integrity of the City, the report - watered down from earlier drafts - went on to refer to "the cynical disregard of laws and regulations; the cavalier misuse of company moneys and a contempt for truth and common honesty".

broking firm.

The week ended in the same part of the world as it had started, as Barclays announced plans to close its Japanese equities business with the loss of 100 jobs.

DOMINIC WALSH

# مِكذا من رلامهل

### Volatile market holds no fears for Energis chief

By RAYMOND SNODDY

SHARES in Energis are due to begin trading on December 9 against a backdrop of world market volatility and after a sharp drop in the share price of Ionica, the innovative telecoms company that floated during the summer.

Mike Grabiner, the chief executive of Energis, has just emerged from a fortnight's roadshow that has taken him to London. Glasgow, Edinburgh, Paris and Frankfurt, drumming up support for the issue. He remains optimistic about how the offering of 20 per cent of the company is being received.

"There is significant interest regardless of the markets." he said. "I think it is a good investment story and people are treating it as such."

He can also point to the significant differences between Energis and lonica, which is using radio to target mainly the residential market and has fallen from grace, at least temporarily, in the City because of delays in rolling out its network.

"We are very much stressing that we are at a very advanced stage of development," he added. As a company aiming entirely at the business sector, rather than the residential market, the Energis chief executive believes the comparisions should be with telecommunications companies such as Colt or WorldCom, rather than lonica.

The book on Energis closes on December 8 and the shares of the company begin trading the next day on both the London Stock Exchange and on Nasdaq.

Because of its parent. National Grid, Energis was able to build a high-capacity, low-cost, fibre-optic network carried on electricity pylons. Since signing up its first customer in March 1994, Energis now provides services at more than 35,000 sites for customers ranging from Boots and Microsoft to Mirror Group Newspapers, and Virgin Atlantic to the BBC, which has a ten-year, £100 million

Its strategy has been to target first individual companies and use them as a lead into sectors. The Energis relationship with Boots, for example, started as a contract worth about £1 million a year. This increased to £2.5 million when more sites and services were

lapsed in 1988 owing investors

He was freed from prison

early last year after serving

four years. When he returned

to live with his family in a

terraced cottage in Maccles-

field, he vowed to work to

El90 million.

added. Now Energis provides Boots with a high-speed data network linking 1,300 sites and supporting everything from credit-card verification to loyalty cards, a contract worth £5 million a year.

Energis shares are being offered in the 250p to 325p range, valuing the enterprise at between £815 million and £962 million — noticeably below some people's original hopes that it might be worth a nice round £1 billion.

In the six months to September 30 Energis had revenues of £69.2 million and gross earnings of £2.1 million, against a loss of £11.1 million on comparable terms in the first half of 1996-97.

Analysts say the final valua-

Analysts say the final valuation will be affected both by market conditions and some niggles that selling off spare capacity will take Energis too far away from its core highmargin business and towards commodity telecoms.

Andrew Moffat, telecom-

Andrew Moffat, telecommunications analyst at Société Générale, the broker, said: "I think Energis is a good business. It represents fairly good value at the lower end of the range, but a bit rich at the upper end."



Mike Grabiner, left, with Chris Hibbert, finance director million in the company.

### Peregrine blames poor trading for 275 layoffs

BY OUR FINANCIAL STAFF

PEREGRINE Investments has laid off about 275 staff from its worldwide operations because of poor market conditions across Asia.

Most of the affected staff

worked outside Hong Kong or were based in the region specialising in markets excluding Greater China, the investment banking group said in a statement. The cost of the losses would be taken as an exceptional item in the year to November 30, 1997, it said. Peregrine said: "While vola-

Peregrine said: "While volatility was beginning to subside in Asia's debt and equity markets, trading volumes were shrinking on the back of decreased liquidity. The group anticipates these conditions will persist, which has resulted in the action taken."

ed in the action taken."

Peregrine Investments said last month that net profits in its equity products business for the period January 1 to October 24 had fallen by about HK\$178 million (£13.8 million) to about HK\$124 million because of trading losses. However, it said there was no truth in rumours that it might be in serious financial trouble and suffer a loss of up to US\$1 billion (£600 million).

Peregrine also announced this month that Zurich Centre Investments, the private equity arm of the Zurich Group, had agreed to invest US\$200 million in the company.

### BUSINESS HOUNDUP

THE TIMES SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29 1997

# West Bromwich to cut mortgage rates

THE West Bromwich Building Society is to cut its mortgage rate by 0.25 percentage points to 8.2 per cent from Monday. The society is also lifting rates for savers by 0.25 points across the board. In spite of the recent increases in base rates, the West Bromwich's proposed changes fulfil a pledge that was made at the society's annual meeting in July. The change in mortgage rate applies to holders of variable rate

loans.

The society is also offering about half its 400,000 members who have held accounts for more than two years a privileged membership package, which includes benefits such as commission-free holiday money, discounted travel insurance and preferential rates on unsecured personal loans. The rate changes bring the West Bromwich back into line with other building societies, a spokesman said. The move may also be seen as a measure to reinforce customer loyalty to the building society, which has been tipped as a possible takeover target.

### **Bristol Water vote call**

BRISTOL WATER wants to throw the next pricing plan open to customer comment in the wake of signals from the regulator that there could be a substantial one-off cut in bills. Bristol wants to ask customers whether they would want all the reduction as cash off their bills or whether they would prefer some to be spent on environmental improvements or improved services. Ian Byatt, the regulator. has begun consultations for his next price review, due in 2000. It is thought he could impose a one-off cut of more than 10 per cent on bills. Bristol Water lifted pre-tax profits for the six months to September 30 7 per cent to £7.8 million. The interim dividend, payable on February 10, is up 9.6 per cent to 17.15p.

### New chief for generator

BRITISH ENERGY has filled its chief executive gap following the departure in June of Bob Hawley. The new boss at the nuclear generator will be Peter Hollins, who joins from ICI. He was responsible for polymers at European Vinyls Corporation, a joint venture between ICI and Enichem. Mr Hollins will join British Energy in February. John Robb, the generator's chairman, said: "I am confident that he has the skills and experience necessary to lead British Energy in the next stages of its development."

### Midlands repays £22m

MIDLANDS ELECTRICITY is to give £22 million in customer rebates next year in an effort to retain customers before competition is introduced in the domestic market. Midlands said it would give £10 per household as it fired a warning shot against an investigation by the industry regulators into electricity companies offering gas. It said the "dual fuel" inquiry could stifle competition. Gas companies complain that some electricity companies are engaging in predatory pricing in the gas market, which opens to competition before electricity.

### Toyota still undecided

TOYOTA, the Japanese car group, is expected to announce in the new year if its planned new small European car will be built at its British plant at Burnaston, Derbyshire. Toyota was responding to suggestions that it would instead choose a French plant for the new car. Toyota GB said: "No decision has yet been taken." The new car is scheduled to be launched in 1999 and will resemble the Japanese-built Starlet. Toyota has invested heavily at Burnaston in the Nineties. The company will launch the Avensis, which will be built there, in January.

# Clowes charged with accounting offences

By Our City Staff

PETER CLOWES, the disgraced former financier who was given a ten-year jail sentence for defrauding investors of £16 million, has now been charged with accounting

The 53-year-old former millionaire has been charged with two offences of false accounting and bailed to appear next month before magistrates at Macclesfield, Cheshire, where he now lives. The charges are believed to be connected with claims for benefits.

Clowes' firm, Barlow Clowes International, col-

XMAS-UK 04

### Abbot wins Azerbaijan contract

ABBOT said its subsidiary, KCA Drilling, had been awarded a \$32 million (£19 million) flagship contract by the Azerbaijan International Operating Company for the drilling platform for the development of the Azeri Chirag and Guneshli offshore fields (Our City Staff writes).

repay investors who had lost their savings in the collapse. The work covers the provi-Early this year, Clowes, who was living on income sion and initial three years of operation of drilling facilities support, said he was developon two platforms. A letter of limited award has been ing a computer project that he had devised in jail. He said signed to cover the initial 30 to 40-day period required until the formal contract is that if he ever made money from the plan, it would go to the people who lost out in the prepared and signed.

# Arbitron moves into UK to bid for radio contract

By Raymond Snoddy, media editor

ARBITRON, a large American market research group, is moving into the UK through the purchase of Continental Research, the British market research group specialising in the media and communications.

The acquisition is the first stage of Arbitron's plans to expand beyond the North American market, where it supplies research for television and radio stations as well as cable and advertising agencies.

Arbitron plans to use t

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Continental purchase to launch a bid for the UK radio industry audience research contract that is going to be put out for tender in the next few months by RAJAR, the combined-industry ratings organisation.

At the same time as Arbitron is making its move into the UK market, Taylor Nelson AGB, one of the UK's leading ratings organisations, has been moving in the opposite direction by trying to establish a foothold in the North American television rat-

ings measuring business. Under the deal with Continental, the organisation will retain its name, while its founder-directors and senior management will continue to manage the UK business.

Last year Arbitron, part of

Last year Arbitron, part of the Ceridian Corporation, the information services group, had revenues of \$153.1 million (£91.7 million). The largest Arbitron division, Arbitron Radio, measures and analyses radio audiences and consumer behaviour in 268 local markets.

# Palm-Pilot Professional and get your free Christmas gift!

### Cliveden to open Edinburgh hotel

BY DOMINIC WALSH

uxtury hotel director of Cliveden, said the

CLIVEDEN, the luxury hotel group, is to buy a Grade A listed building in Edinburgh's St Andrew Square for development as a 64-bedroom hotel and health club. Total cost of the project is estimated at about £12 million.

about £12 million.

The company is acquiring the Victorian building from Scottish Equitable, subject to planning consent. It is thought to be paying close to the £5 million asking price. About £7 million will be spent converting it into a five-star hotel, with its own underground carpark and a separate health club. John Tham, managing

group continued to seek acquisition opportunities. It was still "looking hard" for a site in Paris and was the preferred developer for a palace in Prague, pending the outcome of a legal battle over the property's ownership.

Since its flotation in April

Since its flotation in April 1996, the group has added the Royal Crescent in Bath and the Cliveden Town House in central London. It has also developed a country club at the eponymous Buckinghamshire stately home, made famous by the Profumo affair of the Sixties.

### Paramount in the red

By Dominic Walsh

BAD debts and payoffs to directors and staff pushed Paramount, the troubled pub operator, into the red by £1.4 million in the year to May 31. The company's new management, installed in July, also announced that a financial review had shown the previous year's results to be overstated by £1 million re-

previous year's results to be overstated by £1 million, resulting in a loss in 1996 of £7.39 million. Most of those losses were property value writedowns,

Greece Dr ......
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Ireland Pt ......
Israel Shk .....

with the extra El million being a provision for bad debt. John Dangerfield, finance

director, said that tight credit controls had been put in place to prevent further bad debts, although these had resulted in a 5 per cent decline in sales to £5.6 million.

He added that Paramount was now trading profitably and was considering a range of ways to expand the company from its present estate of 115 tenanted pubs.

### TOURIST THE SUNDAY TIMES

Yukihira, Yamaichi's former chairman, admitted: "If my company had disclosed problem assets, it would not have been able to survive," it was a nasty reminder of just how murky Japanese

When Tsugio

Garth Alexander examines whether enough is being done to sort out Japan's problems. Business. The Sunday Times, tomorrow

finance can be . . . 9

# Good news for NatWest savers

NotWest announces the following interest rates, effective from 1 December 1997:

١		viuôz		
		Gross Rate per annum (%)	Gross CAR (%)	Net Rate per aroum (%)
ļ	Millennium Bond Two year term - minimum \$2,000			
- [	Annual Income/Growth	7.20	7.20	5.76
Į	Monthly Income	6.95	6.95	5.56
ļ	TESSA Reserve	<del>                                     </del>		- 320
	Tax Free Sovings - No Minimum Bolance	7.25	7.45	N/A
	Ctrown Reserve 3 Month Notice - interest paid quarterly			·
]	£250,000 +	6.85	7.03	5.48
1	£100,000 - £249,999	6.70	6.87	5.36
1	£50,000 - £99,999	6.40	6.56	5.12
-	Below £50,000, gross rales are the same as Diamond Reserve			J.12
	Diornorid Reserve 1 Month Hotice - interest poid monthly			
1	£100,000 +	6.55	6.75	5.24
-	£50,000 - £99,999	6.25	6.43	5.00
1	£25,000 - £49,999	5.50	5.64	4.40
١	£10,000 - £24,999	5.00	5.12	4.00
١	£2,000 - £9,999	4.45	4.54	3.56
	Reward Reserve" Instant Access - basic interest pold quarterly			
1	£10,000_+	6.35	6.43	5.08
-	£2,000 - £9,999	6.10	6.17	4.88
1	Premium Reserve Instant Access - Interest paid Guarterly			
-	£50,000 +	5.05	5.15	
1	£25,000 - £49,999	4.95	5.04	4.04
1	£10,000 - £24,999	4.60	1	3.96
1	£2,000 - £9,999	4.80	4.68 4.42	3.68
ı	First Reserve	<del></del>	4.4.	3.48
1	instant Access - interest poid quarterly	ľ	- 1	į
ł	£1,000 +	3.85	202	
1	5500 - £999	3.60	3.91	3.08
	£250 - £499	250	3.65	2,88
	£100 - £249		2.52	2.00
	£1 - £99	2.35 2.25	2.37	88.1
-	4, 533	220	2.27	าลก

The rates for all other personal sawings accounts remain unchanged.

Where appropriate, lower rate tax (currently 2004) will be deducted at source from interest readiled or pool (which niting be reclaimed by resident non-topogers). Otherwise (for example, subject to the required registration form), without will be poid gross. The Gross Rate is the rate pool before deducting income to.

The Gross Carapounded Annual Rate (CAR) is the rate where gross interest pourments are returned in the account during the area.

retained in the occount during the year.

The Net Rate is the rate pold after the deduction of lower rate income tax, currently at 20%.

The years rate and the grass CAR, for the Reward Reserve account include quarterly interest rewards of 1,50% grass per ormain and an ormain interest reward of 1,50% grass per ormain, and an ormain interest reward of 1,50% grass per ormain.

Outstartly rewards are payable provided the account beforce does not tell below 12,000 and no more than three withdrawds are payable provided the account remains in credit and no more than three withdrawds are payable provided the account remains in credit and no more than three withdrawds are made in any year. Should or any account during a quarterly or annual period, you will not receive any quarterly or annual period.

For details of other interest roles please ask or your local topach. All rates are subserved to understant.

NatWest

National Westminster Bank Pic, 41 Lothbury, Landon Foot on

BKG

th Kores

able contracts are at stake,

business tacticians do not always

feel obliged to restrict themselves to blows above the belt.

To Mr Earl, El million is

pocket money. If he wanted to buy influence, he could certainly

afford to be more generous, since

his empire is now estimated to be

worth about £800 million. But if

he does have thoughts of opening

up at the Dome, he will face a tricky public relations problem.
Planet Hollywood, anyhow, may not be the most appropriate

format for the Millennium

Dome, given its roots in Ameri-

can cinema rather than British

He broke into the catering business with a Beeleater ban-queting hall. Perhaps a variant

on that would be more suited to

the Dome than a US-style burger

café, although it might fall foul of

For the time being, most of us

remain entirely in the dark as to what will eventually go inside the Dome. The new exhibition that

has just opened in Greenwhich

attempts to give a flavour of the

project without giving any in-dications as to what delights will

eventually be on offer. But Mr

Earl should know a little more,

since he has already been offer-

the Cool Britannia mood.

The Water Mee

ated and consisting

to the problems

few cynics in Brussels have come to the view that Bernie Ecclesione may have been bluffing when he warned that, without tobacco sponsorship. Formula One and its attendant industries would flee the country, leaving desolation in

But Tony Blair was convinced by the eloquent Mr Ecclestone. A hefty cheque did not cloud his vision at all, even if it has now had to be returned. The problem is simply one of perception. Mr Ecclestone gave generously to Labour: he received a reprieve for Formula One. The two events are unconnected, but the juxtaposition looks bad, and appearances count,

as new Labour has been reminded. So I am intrigued by word that reaches me from Greenwich, where the struts of the Millennium Dome are now reaching skywards. It seems that Robert Earl, the millionaire restaurateur who so kindly handed Labour the cash to repay Mr Ecclestone, may want to open one of his establishments within the Dome. Assuming that there is to be some competition for catering sites in what is aiming to be a huge tourist attraction, a perception problem could be looming for Mr Earl, proprietor of the Planet Hollywood chain.

His rivals in the restaurant business, and there are many, would surely waste no time in pointing out that he had made his I million donation to the Labour Party and then been ushered into the Dome. When potentially valu-

### Earl of the Dome



ing advice to Peter Mandelson on

his pet project.
It would be a shame if his donation were to preclude him from being able to extend his early enthusiasm into taking part in the fun and games that will eventually be on offer. But all those who make political donations will now be in danger of being precluded from situations where they might appear even tangentially to have bought a place at the table.

### Getting out of the coal hole

The Government is busy firefighting over coal, after being caught unawares at the depth of feeling stirred by the prospect of thousands of job losses and the end of the industry.

It is now doing what it should have done several months ago and shaping some sort of energy

policy which provides both a role or coal and an idea of its future. It is unbelievable that Labour should have let the issue explode in the way in which it has. The manner in which it has tried to fight the criticism has also been deeply cynical. The Department of Trade and Industry's spin sheet for ministers advised them to blame the crisis on the Tories. It said: "The least painful press

option is to present, sympatheti-

cally, the facts of the real position

that this Government has inher-ited. This has the great advantage of being true."
But as the Government, Labour has the ability to alter the circumstances it has inherited. We have had the ridiculous situation of John Battle blaming the Conservatives for approving too many gas-fired power sta-tions, while then happily approv-

ing them himself. What emerges from the No IO inspired initiative to provide the

over the medium term should bring some sensibility to energy and should help to create a diverse, sustainable and secure mix that Mr Battle has always advanced but has done nothing

It is not surprising that furore has greeted the crisis in coal. It has not just stemmed from the emotive prospect of miners losing their jobs under a Labour Government. It has arisen because Labour had promised a more considered approach to the very long-term issue of energy than simply throwing up its hands and saying we are in a free market now. Coal is a resource the UK is well blessed with. But once closed, mines are not easily reopened. In addition to the huge employment consequences, it is folly to leave the UK's energy needs to the whim of a market which is leading us to heavy dependence on imported gas.

The DTI had thought it could manage the controversy with its

spin sheet of pat comments. It comprehensively failed. If the Energy Minister had mustered more convincing performances it may not have failed in such an embarrassing manner. If mutterings in the higher Labour echelons prove prophetic, Mr Battle may next year join thousands of miners next year - in looking for a new job.

### Richemont makes fashion statement

t is reassuring to know that while financial chaos hits the Far East, Cartier and Chloë retain their appeal. Richemont is providing ample demonstration of its faith in the continuance of demand for luxury brands by bidding so generously for the minority in Vendome.

The South African company only ever parted with a minority of shares in this adjunct to its tobacco business. Now it wants the lot and perhaps it is right in its view that these international names can best be nurtured in the safety of privacy. Outside shareholders have a nasty habit of losing faith in a brand when it temporarily stumbles.

Richemont should have come to this conclusion now, having clearly felt differently just four years ago when it floated the business. As the figures it produced earlier this week showed, the company is hardly suffering from its status. Stella McCartney, the Beatles daughter, is doing wonders with the Chloe label that had rather languished in the last years of Karl Lagerfield's reign and profits were up by almost a third.

The Dunhill brand is looking a little jaded, according to some style-conscious critics, but the Vendôme stable boasts a host of other up-market names that seem destined to survive well into the next century. On that basis, it is tempting to assume that Richemont believes that there are good times ahead and that the price that looks super-ficially generous is nothing of the

### Netted

FEARS that the Internet is lawless have again been dented. BT, Marks & Spencer, Ladbroke. Sainsbury and Virgin have together won a high court injunc-tion against two firms that set up a cottage industry registering domain names for websites and e-mail using famous names and then tried to sell them to the offended parties. Instead, they must hand them over free. Protecting copyrights may be harder, but will surely come.

### Hornby on fast track to parents

BY OUR CITY STAFF

SHARES in Hornby, the model railway group, rose 2 p to 171p despite a fall in half-year profits from £1.1 million to £973,000 on sales down from £13 million to Ell million in the

The fall was put down to the discontinuation of radio-controlled and toy products. Like for like, Homby says that the pretax profit on its core products is ahead of last year. Debts fell, reducing the interest charge from £4.5 million to £1.7 million in

the six months to Septem-

ber 30. An unchanged interim dividend of 20p a share is to be paid. Homby says that it is has shifted the focus of its marketing to target the adult enthusiast, rather than children. Hornby is applying a similar philosophy to its other main

product, Scalextric racing car games. Peter Newey, chairman. said: "How do you define a toy? In the main they are bought by mature men, not by children. They go to collectors or enthusiasts who put them into model

layouts.
"Most of our sets are bought by men for their sons in anticipation of playing with them them-

selves, I am sure." The most popular train model is the Inter-City 125. but Hornby has updated its range to include the liveries of newcomers such as Virgin and GNER.

Favourites such as the Flying Scotsman are joined by miniature versions of their modern equivalents such as the Eurostar and even the suburban commuter Networker in service on the Chiltern Line.

The switch of emphasis away from the traditional toy market helped the group to offset the effects of the strong pound, which Scalextric, and its decision to drop production of radio-controlled toys.

### Richemont to spend £1bn buying Vendôme shares

By GEORGE SIVELL

RICHEMONT, the Swiss company that owns 70 per cent of Vendome, the luxury goods group that supplies the Cartier, Chloe and Purdey brands, plans to buy the shares that it does not own for 495p each. Vendôme shares soared from 39312p to 47212p in response (Commentary, see this page).

Vendome was floated on the stock market at about 300p in 1993 after a reconstruction of the tobacco and luxury goods business of Rothmans, Dunhill and Richemont. The 30 per cent minority is held largely by institutions. The £1.036 billion buyback

values the whole of Vendôme at £3.45 billion. It remains subject to approval by the other shareholders and the Vendôme board. Richemont said that a financing commitment for the full amount of the cash consideration had been provided by Deutsche Bank. Richemont added, however.

that it might decide not to proceed with the proposals in the event of any further collapse in the world markets that could have a "material adverse impact" on the business of Vendome. However, Richemont will still pay Vendome shareholders the proposed interim dividend of 3.7p a share.

Vendome luxury goods brands include Cartier, Alfred Dunhill, Montblanc, Piaget, Baume & Mercier, Vacheron. Constantin, Lancel and Chloe.



Stella McCartney, chief designer at Chloe, one of the brands supplied by Richemont

It is likely that the Vendôme board will appoint a committee of independent directors to consider Richemont's proposals and advise minority unit-

holders. Richemont said. Richemont's said that it was taking Vendome private because it now believed that it was finally strong enough to

finance further investment in the company. Richemont's offer of 495p per share unit represents a premium of 25.8 per cent of the closing price of Vendome on November 27 and a multiple of 18.7 times Vendôme's earnings for the year to March 31.

by Johann Rupert, a South African, restructured its holdings and set up the current companies. In addition to Vendôme, Richemont has a two thirds interest in Rothmans International. the tobacco company, and a 15 per cent interest in Canal Plus, the In 1993 Richemont, headed pay-television group.

### Cox assets hit

STOCK market volatility has wiped £3 million off the value

hedge taken out around the time the markets peaked in

Cox, a corporate investor at Lloyd's of London, said pre-tax profit rose to £7.3 million (£4 million) for the half year to September 30. The interim dividend is 0.8p (0.7p) a share.

### Crest cost exchange £1m income

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

THE London Stock Exchange's transfer of settlement from Talisman to Crest cost it El million in income, interim results

In the six months to September 30 the exchange earned £70.3 million, compared with £71.3 million for the same period last year.

However, the transition to Crest, which became fully operational in April cut the exchange's costs by £19.3 million to £46.3 million. This was achieved mainly by reducing the number of staff by 200 to 550. After tax and interest, £18.3 million has been transferred to

A spokesman would not comment on whether the exchange was considering a rebate to members. In May it returned £10 million to City companies.

It has, however, vet to finish two major projects in preparation for the single currency and solving the millennium problem facing computer systems.

It has been a busy six months for the exchange. It has attracted listings from 63 new UK companies and 24 overseas firms and 24 companies joined the Alternative Investment Market.

### Reuters adds worldwide sports Web

By Raymond Snoddy, media editor

REUTERS, the international news and information group, kicks off on Monday with its own free sports Web site giving up-to-the minute sports coverage from around the world.

Reuters believes that its SportsWeb will be the first truly international sports Web site monitoring and reporting on nearly 60 sports worldwide. What we have in text and pictures is a sports file which is very international and quite deep," says Pat McCarty, its editor.

The venture is a collaboration between Reuters and Digital Equipment Corporation, which is responsible for the design, installation and management of the Web set. The organisation will benefit from the advertising and merchandising opportunities that arise. There are also plans to use the site to sell tickets for

sports events. Julie Holland, managing director of Reuters UK and Ireland, said: "We know everyone is obsessed with sport." She views SportsWeb as very much a business venture and one that grows naturally out of the group's existing news and

information activities. Reuters

has a dedicated team of 15 sports journalists and three support staff based in London. as well as four full-time specialists in New York, three in Paris and one each in Bonn and Sydney. Reuters does not see itself

facing any direct Web competition. PA, the national news agency and information group, has an extensive sports Web site but it is non-commercial and designed mainly to be a "shop window" for its other

Internet services.

Both ESPN, the satellite sports channel, and CBS, the US network group, have sport Web sites but both are primarilv aimed at the North American market.

Initially the coverage in SportsWeb will be in English. but sections providing local perspective in other languages will be added next year.

Reuters said yesterday that the 1998 highlights of SportsWeb would include everything from this winter's England-West Indies cricket

tests to the World Cup and Lennox Lewis's attempt to become the undisputed world heavyweight champion. ☐ The Reuters site is found at www.sportsweb.com.

### BKG price reaches new low

By Paul Durman

SHARES in BKG Resources. the Kazakhstan mining company formerly known as Bakyrchik Gold, slid to a low

of 15p yesterday. BKG has surrendered most of its interest in the Bakyrchik mine as part of a rescue package agreed with Indo-china Goldfields, the Canadian company that is its biggest shareholder and its joint venture partner in Kazakhstan. The results for the six

months to September 30 show

BKG, which is based in

London, with losses of \$6.7 million (£4 million), up from \$6.2 million, and it has the resources for only modest geological investigations until the end of next year. It is also dependent on Indochina to fund its share of the initial costs of the Bakyrchik mine.

KPMG, BKG's auditor, gave a warning of the "significance" of the uncertainty arising from this dependence on Indochina and said the figures assumed the company would remained a going concern.

Roger Harris, BKG's managing director, said there were no plans to raise fresh capital. At 15p, down 42p yesterday, the AIM-quoted shares are a small fraction of last year's peak value of nearly 590p.

BKG retains only a 20 per cent interest in the Kazakh mine, down from 85 per cent previously. This has caused it to make a \$76.5 million provision against the value of its main asset, reducing the value of its investments to just \$12.5 million (\$87.8 million).

### by market falls

of Cox Insurance Holdings' net assets in two months, the company said yesterday (Marianne Curphey writes). The loss would have been £2 million higher but for a

early October.

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### IMF rescue promises to end system of giant conglomerates

### South Korea's chaebol face upheaval

B1 GEORGE SIVELL

THE terms of the IMF rescue for South Kerea place a question mark over the finite of the chaebol, the giant congiomerates that control the South Kerean comomy. Samsung, Hyundai. LCi and Daewoo are responsible for 80

per cent of GDP. While the companies are reluctant to comment on the cutting back of everseus expansion plans they will find raising the money at home much narder. Yields on South Korean corporate bonds soared to IS.85 per cent this week and the stock market plunged 10

per cent in one day. International investors are beginning to shun South Korean paper because of the South-East Asian furmoil Yesterday LG Semicon, part of the LG chaebol, announced an indefinite postponement of a global deposi-

tory receipts issue. Name of the big chaebol, apart from

Samsung Electronics, has been able to raise capital in the global equity market this year, a far cry from a year ago when South Korean paper was the darling of foreign investors. Economists are now coming to realise that the huge growth of the chaebol, financed by huge debts, lies behind the plea to the IMF for assistance.

Samsung stunned the business community this week with a 30 per cent cut in investment next year and its rivals are expected to follow suit. Halla said that it was retrenching half its 6,000 workforce at its shipbuilding unit by the year-end.

Kim Sang Wook, a spokesman for Hyundai, said: "We have our back to the wall.". Many Hyundai subsidiaries are pushing for heavy restructuring, something they haven't done for a

long time", he said. koo Bon Moo, the LG chairman, is urging his lieutenants to focus on "selection and concentration" as the

consolidating business interests to focus on profits rather than expansion. Daewoo is slowing a global expansion effort that has made it a household name in East Europe, Central Asia and other emerging markets, quite apart from its offer of free at-the-door servicing of cars sold in Britain.

The Federation of Korean Industries, a lobbying organisation of the largest conglomerates, called on the Government for "extreme" rescue measures for companies and financial institutions. Seven of the top 30 conglomerates have gone bankrupt or nearly so, alongside numerous failures

of smaller companies. Analysts said that the heavy dose of austerity expected from an IMF programme could slow growth below 3 per cent next year, from this year's expected 6 per cent, putting more pressure on the chaebol to cut back.

group's future strategy LG, South Geoff Lewis, a Hong Kong based Korea's third biggest conglomerate, is economist at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, said: "There is a clear need for Korea to move away from the chaebol. The system is clearly not appropriate to the 1990s with technology improving and other countries catching up." Mr Lewis added: "The IMF has been

drawn into some pretty fundamental restructuring plans, which are a long way removed from its main sphere of expertise ... to what extent the IMF will be dictating the whole process of industrial reform remains to be seen."

After weeks of denials, South Korea finally sought help from the IMF on November 21 as reports of declining foreign exchange reserves ricocheted through Asian markets. So far, the IMF has said South Korea would require a standby credit facility of \$20 billion (£11,97 billion), but analysts said the extent of the external debt problem, estimated at \$151 billion, could mean much more than that was required,

paid director of any FTSE company. Now it seems set for a third record pulling off the most valueshredding demerger in corporate history. And although the two com-panies have now lost £3.81 billion of market value between them. Sir Colin Southgate - who masterminded the split — still seems quite relaxed. "I'm not falling apart," he said last week, two days after giving warning that EMI is facing sluggish world music markets. "I would like the market to be better, but I think we manage in the market as well as anybody. What more can I do?"

division, making him the highest-

He is fond of reminding that EMI is not just a record company, its a "national treasure". Its shares may have plunged 42 per cent against a bull market in the past year, but with titles that span the Beatles to the Spice Girls, how wrong can one company really go? "We are still the third-largest music company in the world," he says. "We are the number one music retailer in the world. We have the best return on capital. Name me the next British company

### Cool operator dancing to a different economic beat

He blames exceptional forces for hampering the share prices of both companies since the demerger. Together with the £600 million both Thorn and EMI have made in buybacks, he says, things just aint that bad. Shares in EML, his theory goes, were beset by takeover speculation from the first.

"I've watched the takeover premium come out of the share price over the year," Sir Colin said. "I also watched the two years up to demerger when the shares got to a heady £18. I should have sold then that would have gone down really well in the City. And bought at £10 that would have livened them up!"

Thorn and EMI are worth £4.18 billion against £7.99 billion just after the August demerger. To many shareholders, this is inescapably damning - a viewpoint made clear at both companies' annual meetings. But Sir Colin ranks the demerger as a success, on the grounds that shareholders who wanted a "bog standard rental business" are no longer involved in the "hype of the

Together, the two companies' combined market cap amounts to where



### CV: SOUTHGATE

Bank of England, Terrence Chapman Group, Whitehead Mann Group. Born Surrey. 1938, Attended City of London School. Trained as actuary but quit before qualifying to join ICL. Set up Software Science, which was sold to EMI in 1982. Chief executive in 1987.

Thorn FMI was three years ago which he admits is far from ideal. "But we've given very good value to the shareholders since we decided on They should not be unhappy about it." He went on: "Now, the rationale

shareholder value, but what does it mean? It seems the only way I can keep up this shareholder value is to keep putting out rumours that we're just about to be taken over."

This casual attitude, which has won him so many friends in the music industry, is much less appreciated in the City. Fund managers tearing their hair out over EMI's dismal share performance take cold comfort from reminders that the company is a "national treasure".

The recurring question is exactly what value Sir Colin has added to Thorn EMI, either together or apart. after having enjoyed a salary that, in the demerger year, is said to have totalled £8 million. Sir Colin claims to be bashful about his own impact, but does make one assertion: "All I can say is that I don't think EMI would exist if I had not come. What about that. I think it would have been sold around 1985 - somebody would have taken us over.'

Whether this is so or not, a growing number of City analysts fear he is too enchanted with the glitzy life of a pop king to think about earnings growth. "We get the impression that he doesn't

really care what happens to the business," said one. "He's always so aloof, and this is not encouraging." No one is calling for his head, although some say his departure would "not be met with unmitigated grief by the shareholders".

Even if the worst should happen.

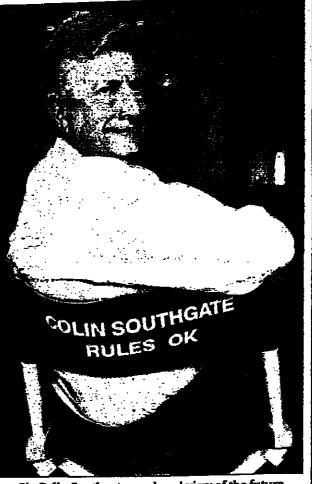
ا مِكذا من رالامل

Even if the worst should happen, Sir Colin is not short of a Plan B. Last week he was named one of the roving ambassadors from business whom the Government wishes to parade to promote Britain's wider commercial interests. And although he has promised another four years at EMI, he does not deny suggestions that he is gunning for the chairmanship of Channel Four.

Whatever the turbulence of the past year, Sir Colin seems to consider his time at EMI as a mission accomplished. Indeed, shareholders who bought when he took the helm in July 1985 cannot deny that they are much better off to the tune of some £3.2 billion, and that a large part of the credit lies with the chief executive.

Those unfortunate enough to pile in at the demerger find Sir Colin's lack of urgency maddening, and strange, at a time when Thorn's management is willing to sell any-thing they can to hike the shares up. But he remains confident that natural market forces will lift the company when the global demand for music recovers. Until then, EMI

FRASER NELSON



Sir Colin Southgate: a relaxed view of the future

# German entrepreneur to import 'gentlemen's clubs' to London

Gillian Upton finds out how

Far Eastern

experience

refined a British idea

ast night Dieter R. nan and chief executive of CCA Holdings, arrived in London from his Hong Kong headquarters to review documentation for four new purchases across Europe. It is widely expected that an announcement of at least one will be made next week.

Klostermann's claim to fame is as exporter of the classic British gentleman's club to the burgeoning economies of Asia in the Eighties. He improved on them and is now set to reimport them by expanding his presence in the UK and continental Europe. Two of the purchases are in greater London, another in Frankfurt, and the last in Berlin in the historic Unter den Linden.

"Things are very hot," said Michael Longshaw, CCA's regional manager UK. He doesn't come over when it's wet and horrible. It means an announcement is fairly imminent."

The CCA style of private club can be seen in the transformation of the Gresham Club in the Square Mile in 1994. The London Capital Club has more than 1,000 members drawn from the worlds of banking. law, insurance and corporate finance. Members are effusive about the high standard of food, networking opportunities and female membership.

"I did think the City could do with a new Riaho. The City has been a bit bereft of good facilities and he had all the right notions," said Sir Peter Parker, the Capital Club's hon-

Two years later Klostermann launched his second European venture when he took over Brocket Hall, the former ancestral home in Hertfordshire of aristocrat. He has been operating it as an out-of-town conference centre, golf and country club. Its golf club is chaired by Lord MacLaurin, the former chairman of Tesco.

Next week's announcement mann's planned £100 million



CCA hopes to repeat its success with Brocket Hall, which is now a golf and country club and conference centre

investments in the UK on more "Brockets".

Luton Hoo was on the acquisition list, but its distance from London and the cost of conversion were too great.

The Good "Gaijin" [foreigner] Guide would undoubtedly list Klostermann as the most sought-after businessmen in Asia. One associate described him recently as the Chinese equivalent of a Taipan, such is his influence. Such lofty status June's handover ceremony of Hong Kong came from the

CCA runs the most prestigious private clubs across the Asia Pacific region. The list of members reads like a Who's Who of Japanese, Chinese, Taiwan, Thai, Indonesian Singaporean, Vietnamese and Filipino blue chip concerns. It includes leading players in Beijing's power structure, while in Jakarta two of his partners are the country's two leading business groups. And in Tokyo members of the imperial family patronise his

facilities. There are more than 30 owned, and some 80,000 members are spread across 14 Asian

Based in Hong Kong, CCA

E180 million and has no transnational rivals.

Klostermann moves in the right circles. Doors can be opened for him anywhere in the world. "I've made a lot of friends and if we need help we have easy access, but we use it

in a proper manner." He is devoid of the flamboyancy often asso-

ciated with high-flyers. Quietly spoken, unassuming and conservatively dressed. he has all but lost his German has softened appreciably after aimost 30 years of living in the Far East. "He

Rolls-Royce purt," is how Sir Peter Parker

describes him. Klostermann was born in Bremen, and it may have been the Hanseatic tradition of having more con-tact with the outside world that helped to turn this 53-year-old transnational businessman. He has worked in Frankfurt, Paris, New York and Sydney.

generates annual revenues of He credits himself with a "bit of his first project in Japan, but he £180 million and has no trans-oriental mentality" after so hung in there, remembering

long in Asia. His career began in hotels. He held senior management positions with big-name players such as Hilton Hotels Corporation. Holiday Inns. Oberoi Hotels, and Hilton International. He wanted to start his own business so he

> international projects.
> "It's important to understand development. the cost of investment, how to raise funds for a project

moved swiftly into hotel dev-

elopment work-

ing on several

Klostermann: new breed he explains. The experience

admire it." says Klostermann.

It took him years to negotiate

obviously honed his diplomatic skills; Sir Peter refers to his management style as "the velvet approach". His busines mentor was Ewell Pope. "He had tremendous perseverance. You must never give up. People in Asia

Pope's advice. CCA became the first foreign company to own and operate a private international business club in Japan with the opening of the Century Club in Osaka in 1983.

The company flagship in Asia, the City Club of Tokyo, followed three years later, opened by Prince and Princess Mikasa, just as the recession

"The early part was not easy," he admits, "you have to go through a learning curve." His tenacity, however, has paid off. "I didn't expect the company to grow so rapidly. Had we been in one market we would have grown faster still, but Japan. China and Indonesia, for example, have different cultures, different eating habits and ways of doing business." He believes that his good fortune would not have hap-pened in Europe. "Asia then was similar in the old days to

California. I was in the right place at the right time," he says with self-effacement. Witnessing the rising afflu-ence across Asia, he tapped into

it by founding the CCA Group

in 1980 to both develop and

of enhancing lifestyles," he Openings followed the flow of foreign investment. Vietnam

has been the most difficult of all hidden investments. \*It has much more red tape than China and it changes laws at short notice." he says. CCA has recently signed a

started out with the simple idea

joint venture contract with one of Klostermann's former employers, Oberoi, the Indian huxury hotel owner, to develop clubs throughout India, starting with Bangalore and Deihi.

The concept of a private club is not a new idea in either Europe or North America, but is novel in Asia except in Hong Kong, Singapore and Kuala

Existing clubs were member-run, but not for profit," he says. They were run by parttime committees with no financial accountabilities. People concentrate too much on the crystalware. That is important, but I wanted to apply professional management.

His hotel base formula of high standards and excellent food and beverage worked, although there is nothing formulaic about the premises. Each is designed to fit the local culture and community (which does not really explain the Bankers' Club in Taipei resembling the inside of an English stately home), and are driven in no small part by the senior members of the local business community who make up a board of advisers. It is they who have the final say on who

The club is one of five types: city, city athletic, golf and country club, family recreational and an entirely new category of small luxury club resorts. They vary from the City Club of Tokyo to the Imperial Country Club in Jakarta and the 36-hole Vietnam Golf and Country Club in Ho Chi Minh City.

Eight clubs are under development, including one in Moscow. Klostermann may take CCA International, the management company, public, and is toying with the idea of going into language and cookery schools and property dev-elopment in China.

Other than that he is concentrating on his core business, eagerly looking for resorts. "It's a natural extension of our business. We cater to them weekdays in city clubs, weekends at golf and country clubs and now holidays. We want to be with

operate places where the Asian nouveau riche could spend you all the time." Tony Blair, with whom he had become chummy at the Ministry of Defence. But in France they have been doing things thus for some time now, and on Monday Baron Ernest-Antoine Seiliere de Laborde - to name but a few, as the late Ronnie Scott would have put it - will emerge as the favoured candidate to run the

French bosses' organisation. The Baron comes from one of the 200 aristocratic families that own France. He will receive the official backing of the executive committee of the CNPF, better known in France as the Patronat, ahead of the formal election on December 16. Then he will be opposed by a couple of terminal losers and emerge, Brezhnev-style, to replace Jean Gandois, who decided a few weeks back there were better ways of earning a living than arguing with the country's militant truck drivers. The Baron is on "tutoi" terms with Lionel Jospin, the so-

### **Transforming** Japan will test the nerve of ruling party

Carl Mortished in Tokyo finds a

painful economic shift under way

n Thursday, a stock-broker jumped to his death from an office building in Osaka. He was employed by an affiliate of Yamaichi, the biggest corporate failure in Japanese history, is sending out shockwaves. No one knows why Seiichi Tanigashira, the 40year-old deputy section head at Taiheiyo Securities, committed suicide but the press says he was depressed over the Yamaichi failure

On the same day, the former chairman of Yamaichi publicly admitted that 265 billion yen (£1.2 billion) in losses were concealed in a web of offbalance-sheet transactions. Known as tobashi trading, deficits on client accounts prior to the year end were transferred to separate com-

panies to avoid a loss. The admission was a very public humiliation for Tsugio Yukihira, who said that the firm had been trying to trade out of its problems. But more interesting has been public reaction. Most Japanese are less shocked by

the attempt at concealment **6** Behind the than by the fact that the firm calm, a was allowed to go under. Lawtyphoon makers in Jablows in members of the this ordered ruling Liberal Democratic Party, are re-ported to have society 9

Ministry of Finance for not economic growth is not filling being aware of Yamaichi's troubles or, if they were, for not having concealed them.

There is no obvious panic other than the relentless slide in the Nikkei index but the calm conceals a typhoon blowing through this wealthy and ordered society. What is hap-pening is the unravelling of Japan Inc, the complex ties that ensure the weak are carried by the strong. At a low level it means that

staff are kept on long after their jobs or skills have become redundant. At the corporate level it is best exemplified by the so-called "convoy system" where the strongest banks are expected to bail out the weak. That still seemed to be in operation in April when Nippon Credit was recapitalised but recent events suggest the Finance Ministry is thinking the unthinkable. In a month, four financial institutions have been cut loose from

the great financial convoy. Banking analysts in Tokyo expect more of the leaking boats to be sacrificed to the forces of capitalism. James McGinnis, banking analyst at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, reckons 30 per cent of the sector could go in failures or takeovers. "Propping up the weak is like trying to save a drowning man. If you don't catch him right, he'll drag you down," he said.

Japan's troubles stem in part from the 1970s when the government pump-primed the economy with public works. Although Japan has been left with an infrastructure that is

the envy of the world, it has also accumulated huge bad debts, some would say from pork-barrel projects now yielding little or no return. The Japanese saved huge sums while they restored prosperity after the war and banks found an easy source of cheap capital to lend, many would say indiscriminately, to industrial companies. With cheap loans and a pressing need to create jobs, Japan Inc went for growth at the expense of everything else.

Ken Okamura, equity strategist at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, reckons that corporate behaviour in the late 1980s 4 had much to do with the need to find good jobs for the babyboomers, who were turning 40 and demanding promotions.

Japan's birth rate is now running at well below replacement rate and the lack of new bodies to join the ranks of the salarymen is causing a major headache as state pension provision is inadequate and many companies, already suffering from weak profitability,

are funding schemes from come. The demographics point to a severe squeeze on public and private finances, evi-Meanwhile

the gap and the economy

stagnates.
The Japanese Government faces an almost impossible task, restructuring an economy designed for growth rates of 5 to 6 per cent but now registering nil. Burdened with bad debts, it needs to raise consumption levels but the message to the public is that the future is bleak. Walk down Ginza, the shopping street that acts as a barometer of consumer confidence and there is a distinct lack of bustle.

When Yamaichi staff cried as they explained the collapse to appalled customers more than shame caused their tears they feared for their own jobs. The concern is well justified; their customers who were trying to cash in money market accounts will not spend the proceeds but put the money under the mattress with the nagging worry that they could face the axe.

In a real sense. Japan is making the painful transition from a socialist economy to one where the weak can sometimes go to the wall. The agonising job facing nervous officials in the Ministry of Finance is how to sell this transition to the public.

Should the Government lose its nerve, the capital markets will turn their back on Japan and the huge cost of bailing out the creaking financial system could become prohibitive. If they forge ahead and permit a rash of bankruptcies. there must be a nagging worry that Japan's docile salarymen might just say "No".

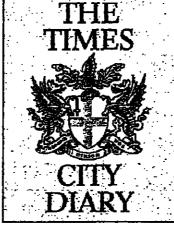
### River view

ever had to spend time in Dresdner Kleinwort Benson's rather ghastly foyer in Fenchurch Street, probably the least receptive of the City's reception areas. Kleinwort is taking over BZW's old gaff on the Thames, at Ebbgate House, vacated when they were all shipped downriver to Canary Wharf and sold into Swiss slavery. Some 800 people from the global markets and finance teams are moving to Swan Lane by the end of next year, once the building has been furnigated and refurbished at a cost of £40 million. This will allow much of Fenchurch Street itself. where Kleinwort has been in residence since 1969, to be tarted up, including the glass-fronted penal holding tank at the front of the building. "Hopefully when they get around to doing the refurbishment, that's where they will start," says my

source. Indeed, get above about the tenth floor at Kleinwort and it is salubrious enough, Roux Brothers catering and all, but anything below that is positively Dickensian.

By then, they should have sorted out the computer glitches that have been plaguing Kleinwort's derivatives team. No one at the Germanowned bank is saying anything, but someone who has had dealings with them says they have been tearing their hair out for a week.

 VISCOUNT THURSO'S Champneys health club has imported the latest keep-fit gizmos from Califor-nia to its Piccadilly premises, much frequented by politicians and other opinion-formers. A pedal bike on which the chain goes the wrong way around — or something such, the details need not detain us — they are



known as spin-bikes. And have already been christened Mandies.

Screen stars IF THOSE busy little computer pro-

spotted their successors. The place to be, one of the big computer software houses was telling me a while back, is computer law. The opportunities for profiting from others' misfortune are endless. Now one specialist has struck out on his own. Richard Kemp, 41, is leaving Garretts to set up Kemp & Co. Actually, it is currently Kemp and Only Three Others, but another specialist lawyer, Kenny Mullen from McGrigor Donald, the Scottish law firm, is joining shortly. Kemp is the only technology buff to have appeared in a survey of 40 top UK solicitors aged less than 40 a couple of years back, but I will try not to hold this against him.

dealing rooms are the new heavy hit-

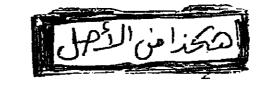
ters in the City, then I think I have

**Patronage** 

think you would agree, if the Duke of Westminster were to be elected Director-General of the Confederation of

WE MIGHT find it a little odd, I cialist Prime Minister, since their

time together at the Quay D'Orsai. MARTIN WALLER



STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK Stock Market Writer

### Program trades and Sets blamed as shares slide

A CLUTCH of program trades saw share prices take a nosedive just minutes before the close of business.

the production

e in ond

The problem was exacerbated by the recently introduced Sets trading system, which continues to attract fierce criticism from agency brokers annoyed by the low levels of turnover and high levels of volatility created by wide spreads between bid and offer. The FTSE 100 index closed at its low point of the day, a fall of 57.2 at 4,831.8, with 25 points of the fall coming in the last quarter of an hour. This stretches the loss on the week to 154 points.

It proved a suitable finale to an unsettling week that saw the spectre of rising interest rates come back to haunt investors.

Tuesday's "green Budget" highlighted an apparent dis-crepancy between the Bank of England's inflation target and that of the Treasury's. Either way it looks as if the ball has been bounced into the Governor of the Bank of England's court, making the prospect of another imminent rise in interest rates a real possibility.

By the close of business last night a total of just 583 million shares had traded - the lowest of the week. The program trades were believed to have been carried out by JP Morgan, the US securities house, and included tranches of pharmaceutical companies.

It saw Zeneca lose an early lead to finish op down at \$18.90 ahead of a visit by brokers on Monday to the group's research and development centre at Macclesfield. Zeneca has been a strong market this week, supported by the decision of the US Food and Drug Administration to approve Zomig, its migraine treatment. The potential market for migraine is estimated at \$1.5 billion annually by the turn of the century. British Biotech also put on a further 412p at 122p on persistent talk of a bid from Zeneca.

There were also losses recorded in SmithKline Beecham. down 50p at 550p, with Glaxo Wellcome shedding 91p to £12.87 after some cau hous comments from HSBC James Capel, the broker.

Cautious comments from Schroders also left GEC 8120 lower at 35p ahead of halfyear figures next week. These are expected to show pre-tax rofits marginally ahead at (430 million, compared with



Viglen Technology, which sponsors Charlton Athletic, fell 2212p with margins down and oversupply problems

Europe.

E421 million for the corres- talk about an offer from ponding period. A brokers' visit to Telford gave a fillip to TI Group, 112p

better at 47812p. Richemont's £1 billion offer, worth 495p a share, for the remaining 30 per cent of Vendome it does not already own caught the speculators on

the hop. They had been antici-

A profits warning sent Viglen Technology tumbling 2212p to 50p. The personal computer manufacturer and direct retailer said there had

American Telephone & Tele-

graph, the giant US telecoms group, which may see Vodafone as a way into

Nikko, the Japanese securities house, is urging clients to wait for higher terms at Allied Colloids, the subject of an aggressive 155p offer from Hercules. Nikko says Allied, 2p up at 168p, needs to leverage shareholder value by either proving it can do better, find a white knight or negotiate better terms with Hercules.

pating a bid for another been a continuing erosion of company with the same initial, which everyone had assurned would be Vodafone, the mobile phone operator and the subject of intense bid speculation during the past

couple of weeks. Vendome responded to news of its approach with a leap of 79p to 47212p, while Vodafone firmed 2p to 396p, suggesting that perhaps there may be a bid on the way after

Viglen Technology

gross margins with oversupply forcing prices lower. The group, which also sponsors Charlton Athletic, said volumes were still growing.

Laura Ashley slumped to a new low with a fall of 4p to 4l¹2p after its own broker more than doubled its forecast losses for the current year. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson is now looking for £15 million. Its move comes just a week all. There has been plenty of a fter the departure of Ann

		·
MOVE	IS OF THE WEE	K
Compt pri Bluebird Toys92%	e change	Profits was

Week's	
	Profits warning
+12/p	Richemont bids 495p Broker turns cautious
+42p	Hercules bids 155p
1976	Profits warning FDA approves Zornag
+16p	Bid speculation Eurofighter go ahead
+8½p	

confirms that the grou losing money at a much f pace than was origing thought to be the case.

Another retailer in declinations are the case.

Sears, the Selfridges de ment store and Freemans order group. The price to to a low of 49p in turnov 4.5 million shares. The banks closed n

after another volatile pe mance this week. Stan Chartered finished 1712p er at 65712p in the wake of Wednesday's dinner with brokers who took part in a recent two-day trip to Hong Kong and Singapore. It stretches the loss on the week to 7012p.

UBS, the broker, unsettled others in the sector by expressing worries about the slowdown in both the mortgage and lending markets. It iollowed this up by lopping an estimated £100 million from its profits forecast for Lloyds TSB, down 9p at 675p, even though it continues to rate the shares. Other losers included Alliance & Leicester, 10p to 730p. Barrlays. 19p to £14.28, NatWest Bank. 9p to 898p. and Royal Bank of Scotland, which reported in the week, 4p

But there were gains of 4p apiece for Halifax, on 680p. and Abbey National on 945p. while Woolwich enjoyed the best peformance among the top 100 companies with a rise of llp to 30212p.

☐ GILT-EDGED: Bond prices were squeezed sharply higher in thin trading as worries earlier this week about a possible rise in interest rates began to recede. The best gains were seen at the longer end, with shorter dated prices undermined by some bearish comments from Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, to the Treasury

Select Committee. In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt put on £1732 at £119116. A total of 44,000 contracts were com-pleted as investors began rolling over their positions into the March series.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 rose £2332 to £1191732, while at the shorter end Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was £316 firmer at £100<sup>29</sup>32. ☐ NEW YORK: Shares were firmer across the board in light trading. By the half-day close, courtesy of Thanksgiving, the Dow Jones industrial average was 28.35 points

higher, at 7,823.13.

New York
Oslo
Paris
Stockholm
Tokyo
Zurich

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12.110-12.122 9.9417-9.9506 13.001-13.015 214.92-215.11 20.905-20.925

New York Dow Jones
Tokyo: Nikkel Average 16636-26 (+33.06)
Hong Kong: Hang Seng
Amsterdam: AEX Index 881.72 (-4.59)
Sydney: 2465.10 (+2.80)
Frankfurt: DAX
Singapore: 1660.59 (+9.62)
Brussels: General
Paris: CAC-40 2859.19 (+30.18)
Zurich: SKA Gen
London: FT 30 3135.6 (-27.9) FTSE 100 4831.8 (-57.2) FTSE 250 4656.7 (-1.6)
FTSE 350

MAJOR INDICES.

German Mark \_\_\_\_\_\_ 29711 (+0.0166) Bank of England official close (4pm) RP1 ...... 159.5 Oct (3.7%) Jan 1987=100 RPIX ..... 157.9 Oct (2.8%) Jan 1987=100 - RECENT ISSUES

.... 1.6845 (+0.0098

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	Capital Opps Tst	1135	
1	Cresco Intl	1531:	
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MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Vendome	472'sp (+79p)
Caledonia	
Dorling Kind	239p (+11'.p)
Real Time	
BG	284p (+121:p)
Cable Wireless	538p (+ 19p)
Wolseley	508p (+17p)
Filtronic Com	422p (+ 12p)
Photobition	. 7871:p (+20p)
Cobham	
Providera	713'sp (12p)
E4110.	

Closing Prices Page 26

FALLS:	naving increased :
FALLS: Viglen Tech	from £110,000 to £75.5 mi
Smithkine 550p (-50p)	in five years, it is scar
Corr Union 815p (-37p)	surprising that Eidos's vo
Royal & Sun Al 533p (-18p)	management team have
Sapp: 335'4p (-11p)	more pressing things to the
Gen Accident 963p (-311:p)	about than the Cadbury
Prudential 638p (-20p)	That does not make it
Smith Inds 774p (-24p)	
Sun Lile & Prov 378p (-101/p)	less worrying that a
Rю Tinto 715р (-19р)	million company is only
RMC Gp 896p (-22p)	getting round to sorting
Br Arways 537p (-13p)	the boardroom basics.
Marks Spencer 609p (-14p)	Eidos claims that it

adopted the most prudent

### **TEMPUS**

### Clearer line from Energis

IT IS hardly surprising if the word Ionica inevitably flashes into the minds of investors invited to participate in the book-building for Energis, the telecommunications company that floats on December 9.

Shareholders in Ionica, the wireless telecommunications group, were not best pleased earlier this month to find that unexpected delays with software were hampering its

progress only a few months after its float. Energis and Ionica may share a lack of familiarity but, in truth, there is no comparison between the two companies. Energis, the National Grid subsidiary, has already completed its national network, apart from selling off some spare capacity. It is aiming entirely at the high-margin business communications market and has actually made some gross profits, albeit modest.

The National Grid can't need the money and must be more interested in placing a value on one of its brighter ideas - stringing a fibre optic telecommunications network from electricity plyons.

There is obviously a long way to go vet but it seems as if Energis has a plausible strategy and has put most of the building blocks in place for expansion, including an international licence, which should give it the ability to put the bite on some of BT's prices.

Against the current market background. Energis may struggle to have its shares priced near the top of the suggested range - 250p to 325p. Obviously, the price that finally emerges from the book-building is the allimportant caveat. But Energis has developed some interesting opportunities on which to

### Viglen

NO DEMERGER can be complete nowadays without a profits warning a few months later. Just 119 days after Viglen came to the market, it has tripped up. Viglen had been walking

on water for too long. It had captured a niche market in the small personal computer field and had been churning out margins of 10 per cent virtually unknown among

its peers. Now, this has imploded just in time for Christmas. The company is heading for maiden profits of E11.5 million for this year, against its broker's recent confident forecast of £12.4 million.

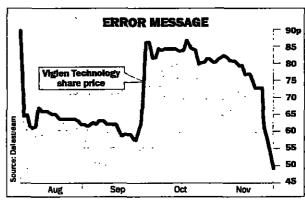
Its problem has been an attempt to hitch on to the mass market. Its shares shot to a heady 87p after its deal with Microsoft, which lent its name to Viglen hardware.

These machines were heading for Dixons, and ready to do battle with the world's

It is now learning the essons of the big brigade. Words like "oversupply" seldom featured on Viglen's listing particulars, but it is a problem it will have to grow used to if it wants to play in the major league.

Viglen is no dog. It is set to do well in the late 1990s with the Microsoft deal. The cost of these ambi-

tions is more normal margins, and the occasional beating from harsh competition. The City seems to have calmed down, and the shares now sit on a more realistic ratio of 10.2 times forward earnings. Hold.



### Eidos

THESE past few months. investors in Eidos have enjoyed almost as much excitement as its young customers derive from Tomb Raider. the company's big-selling computer game. First of all, Coopers & Lybrand resigned as auditor, supposedly over weaknesses in the company's governance. Then came allegations of an insider dealing inquiry. And now wholesale changes to the accounting policies that turn last year's impressive £7.6 million profit into a loss of about the same.

arcely young think code. now

Eidos claims that it has

**DOLLAR RATES** 

accounting in the games developments business - abandoning its previous policy of capitalising its enormous development spending (£16 million in the first half) on the balance sheet.

For all its past success, Eidos could get it wrong. The dangers are to be seen in the disappointing first-half sales. blamed on two flops licensed in. Yesterday's launch of Tomb Raider II gives the company a strong roster for. Christmas. However, if the appeal of Lara Croft and other favourites suddenly fades. Eidos could easily leave a nasty red mess. Strictly for the brave.

### Cox Insurance

ONLY time will tell whether Cox's recent successful move to buy back underwriting capacity in Lloyd's from names was achieved when prices were at rock bottom in the market. Names had to balance the risk of another crisis against selling out to Cox.

The City thinks that Cox engineered a very good deal, as the continued strength of its shares shows.

The thinking behind Cox's strategy of buying in capacity is to avoid the fees that otherwise must be paid to middlemen. The names system is very expensive. Typically, a third of names' profit is siphoned off by agents charging fees and profits commission. Cox begrudges having to pay this, when it could instead be adding extra sums to shareholders' funds. Cox's value has grown sharply since floration two

years ago, even though all sectors of the insurance industry are finding trading to be tough. Of its £80 million half are in equities, and, in spite of recent market volatility, this exposure has served shareholders well. With such credentials, there is still room for the share price to rise

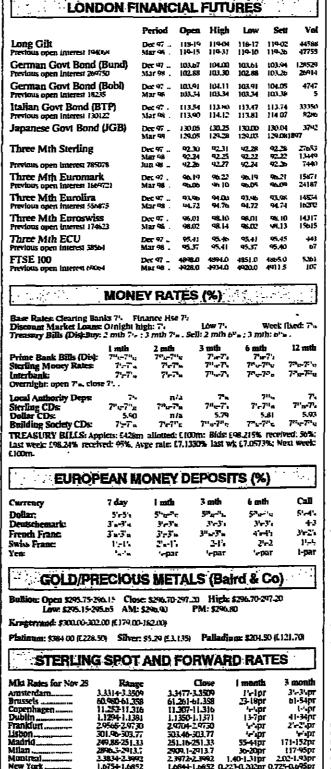
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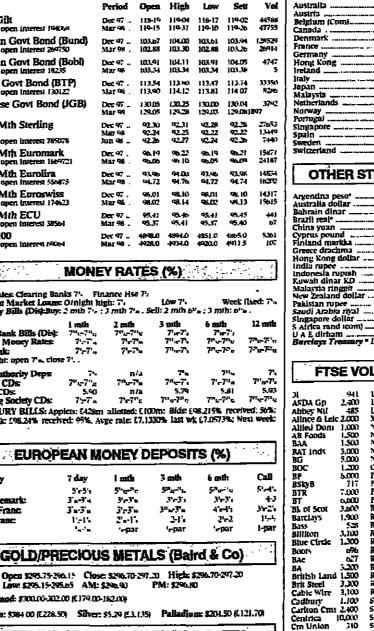
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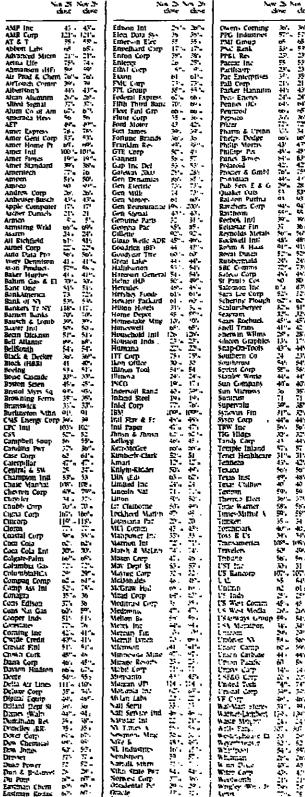
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### MPs vote to ban foxhunting

■ The end of foxhunting in Britain by 2000 was confidently predicted by Labour ministers. MPs and campaigners last night after the Commons gave a massive majority to a backbench attempt to outlaw hunting with hounds.

After a passionate debate, Michael Foster's bill was carried by 411 votes to 151, a majority of 260 ... 

### Hearts to guard grave of Princess

A seven-foot-high steel cordon is to be erected around the island where Diana, Princess of Wales is buried. Her brother, Earl Spencer, has asked his local authority for permission to build the fence, decorated with thousands of heart-shaped motifs 

### Supermarket savings

Supermarkets will play a key role in a savings revolution to be unveiled by Gordon Brown next . Page l week...

### Fair sex

ne to Th

The biggest concentration of rubber outside Malaya was on display in London at Britain's first commercial sex fair ...... Page I

### Luxor victim lost

The body of a second member of a family killed in the massacre at the Egyptian tourist resort of Luxor has been lost ....

### Plea for horses

Sir Peter O'Sullevan, the "Voice of Racing" for half a century, made an emotional plea for racehorses' welfare as he prepared for his final BBC commentary ...... Page 3

### £7m loser

A partner in a City accountancy firm who swindled funds to bet more than £7 million on horse races was jailed......

### Sandhurst scandal

Cash and gifts are at the heart of the unprecedented investigation at the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst...

### British pioneers

British surgeons have perfected keyhole surgery to remove a breast tumour and rebuild the breast in a four-hour operation

### **ANC** smeared

South African agents planted stories in British newspapers aimed at smearing the ANC and Winnie Madikizelá-Mandela.....Page 13

### Britpop goes pop

Britpop, the musical phenomenon that made Britain cool again, may be breathing its last ......

### Pacific evacuation

Evacuation plans are being drawn up by Pacific islands in case global warming raises sea levels and ......... Page 3 make them uninhabitablePage 20

### PC law catches up with German Pcs

Flat-chested Hispanic-looking car thieves are given a breathing space by a ruling in Germany's political-correctness revolution which obliges police to avoid sexually-suggestive and ethnic adjectives in crime reports....



Ho Chi Minh Pioneers prepare to perform at the opening session of Vietnam's Seventh Communist Youth Congress in Hanoi yesterday.

### NEWS FEATURES

English fare: The sort of food that sustained Henry VIII is returning to the table. The revival of old English fare is the coming cookery trend as sales foretell the end of the socalled new British .Page ii

Evil laugh: The exorcist of Notre Dame has a devil of a sense of humour ..... Page 19 Valerie Grove: The times are a-changin', and they leave old rockers (and folk singers) behind, unless they do one of two things: succumb to early death, or re-invent themselves. Joan Baez is in her prime at almost 57 ... Page 21

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Dan Farson, writer, broadcaster and photographer; Robert Woof, Labour MP for Blaydon; C. Gordon Tether, journalist .... ..... Page 25

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Coal: The Government is working on plans to save the coal industry ...... Page 27 Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 57.2 points to close at 4831.8. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 104.4 to 105.0 after a rise from \$1.6747 to \$1.6845 and DM2.9545 to DM2.9711.... ... Page 31

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Full seven-day television and radio guide

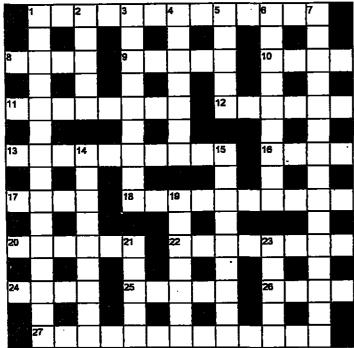


back for more

### THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,650

A £20 book token will be awarded to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times. Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London El 9DD. The names of the winners and the solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address



- I Reveal secret light outside an
- Egyptian city (5.3.5). 8 Release without charging (4).
- 9 Sticky stuff, say, applied the wrong way to arm (5). 10 Swindle of £1.51? (4).
- II Force both sides into a radio broadcast (8).
- 12 Virago has to continue slowly (6).
- 13 Be guided by ruling and give up criminal activities (2.8).
- 16 Punish all the spectators (4). 17 Close main line (4).
- 18 Emphatic pronoun with which
- fairies end letter? (10). 20 Hanging out, so to speak (6).
- 22 Doctor in South American coun-
- try gets new issue (8). 24 "Reverse arms" well ordered (4).
- 25 Tablecloth with indentations, by the sound of it (5). 26 Judge takes some outside
- employment (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,614

PIRIOIVIOIKIIINI

27 Steward's on the fiddle - that's succinct (5.3.5).

Extend house in both directions to develop fully (6,4,5).

2 One bargain that's unattainable

3 An old soldier, I nearly go crazy

4 Exhibit pet with a guilty look (7).

5 Money we pray for on a daily basis (5).

6 Artist, upset over alteration, left -Raphael. perhaps (9).

7 Out of its depth, here's a beast of burden (4.2.3.6). 14 Learner kept in beginning to

adapt to rap over the knuckles (7-15 Prongs stuck into girl producing irritability (9).

19 Do without female's soothing words (7).

21 First sections of Handel piece

needed practice (5). 23 Duck a trick (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,649

### AA INFORMATION

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AA Car reports by fax 

**HOURS OF DARKNESS** 

4.07 pm 6.32 am

London 3 57 pm to 7 43 sm Bristol 4 06 pm to 7 52 sm Edinburgh 3 46 pm to 8 18 am Manchester 3 55 pm to 8 00 am Penzance 4 24 pm to 7.55 sm Sun rises: 7 43 am Sun sets: 3 56 pm Moon sets 4.47 pm 7.36 am

New moon today London 3 56 pm to 7 44 am Bristol 4 06 pm to 7 52 am Edinburgh 3 45 pm to 8 19 am Manchester 3 55 pm to 8 02 am Penzance 4 23 pm to 8 02 am

HIGH TIDES

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Bhacombe	05 15	38	17 31	81
King's Lynn	05 36	6.3	17 58	6
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Shoreham	10 26	59	23.04	- 2
			22 45	- 33
Southampton	10.05	46	22.21	4:
Saransea	05 39	91	17.57	9
Tees	02 50	51	15:0	5.2

**HIGHEST & LOWEST** 



☐ General: Scotland will be mostly overcast and damp with a chilly wind.
Northern Ireland will see a few bright or sunny spells, but showers are also likely. Northern England, east Wales and the Midlands will be cloudy with outbreaks of rain. Southern England and were Wales will have become and west Wales will have showers. London, SE England: mix of

showers and brighter spells. More prolonged rain later. Moderate west wind. Max 12C (54F). ☐ E Anglia, E Midiands, E Eng-Isle of Man, Central N England, NE England: dull and cloudy with rain, some heavy. Moderate west to northwest wind. Max 10C (50F). Channel Isles, SW England: frequent showers, some heavy, and

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland: cloudy with occasional drizzle and northeast wind. Max 9C (48F).

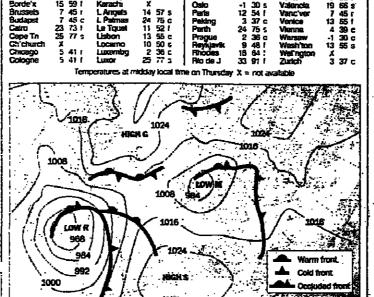
☐ Northern Ireland: rain in the east clearing to showers and sunny spells. Light northwest wind. Max 10C (50F). Republic of Ireland: bright with some showers. Moderate northwest wind. Max 10C (50F). ☐ Outlook: colder, with showers

brighter spells. Moderate northwest wind. Max 13C (55F). turning increasingly wintry in the north.

### AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

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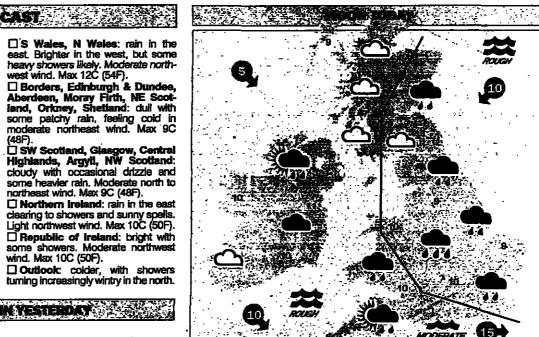


Banking: Banks are trying to steal competitors' customers . Pensions: A question

tional matches in London: England v South Africa and Wales v New \_\_ Page 41 Football: Everton supporters are planning a demonstration ..... Page 37 Tennis: Jonas Biorkman gave Sweden the lead over the United States in the Davis Cup final ... Page 34 Snooker: Stephen Hendry stood only three frames away from reaching the .Page 34



Our new kids' comic is



service) to Barbados on any Saturday from 1 November till 11 April ● fourteen nights at the luxurious Accra Beach Hotel ● Highland First to Gatwick from £999 or £699 for seven nights on 22, 29 Nov. or 6 Dec.

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DC-10 to Gatwick £2,499 DC-10 to Barbados on 23 December • eight nights at Sam Lord's • inaugural Concorde to Havana • two nights with

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WEEKEND

The gold to be made from the silver screen PAGE 51



In search of George V's lost Rolls Royce **PAGE 45** 

# SATURDAY SPORT

**NOVEMBER 29 1997** 

### CATT FACES BALD FACTS AT TWICKE

# England search for kicking habit

By Rob Hughes CHIEF SPORTS WRITER

WHEN Mike Catt stands behind the ball at Twickenham this afternoon, another capacity audience waiting to see if he has the nerve and accuracy to kick a penalty or a conversion straight, a wellrehearsed mantra should dominate his thoughts: "Flow through the ball".

He must not think back to the missed kicks against New Zealand last week. He must shut out the crowd, not see the doubt in the eyes of fellow men. ignore the staring South Airicans. He needs to be a man alone in England's biggest rugby ground; his mood should be tight, but not ag-gressive. And when he comes to the strike, he must forget about technique ... just hit it. :
Flow through the ball.

If Can has heard this once, he has heard it 100 times this week. "We haven't dwelt on failure." Dave Alred, the England kicking coach, said. "There isn't time. Catty lost the plot at Old Trafford. He was frustrated. He was disgusted because he's a proud man. But with the speed the games are coming, we have to concentrate on trusting the technique that is ingrained in him."

Aired, whose coaching ex pertise has soothed the likes of Rab Andrew and Neil Jenkins through troubled times, will know before the kick-off whether Can is in the groove. In fact, he already thinks he knows because, at dinner last night, he had to make the final recommendation as to who should take the kicks between Can and Man Dawson. After hitting hundreds of balls in ractice, the coach said that Can, the No! England kicker.

"Kicking." Alred said, "is a ionely job. It has to be. I watched Andrew Mehrtens



[New Zealand's exemplary kicker] last week. He was detached from things at the start; Mike couldn't hold on to that detachment, first because he's trying to do a job for England that he doesn't regularly do for Bath, second. because Lawrence Dallaglio. Jason Leonard and Martin Johnson brought the tearn up to an emotional peak that exceeded anything I've seen apart from the Lions tour to South Africa. It was so intense even the coaching staff found it difficult not to get carried

For Catt, his competitiveness instilled in his early schooling in South Africa, the

Today, if he is swayed by Alred, he will try to compartmentalise it - to run with the team, but shoot with singleness of mind.

The coach has no illusions about the difficulty. Married with two children, Alred is attempting to conduct his own life on split levels. He has coached kickers in union and league in England, France and Australia yet is now also studying at Loughborough for a degree in the neurology of skill acquisition.

He has not filled the head of Catt with the science of the mind, but the process is there, in the subconscious. As the wind and rain relentlessly team spirit was unavoidable. beat down on Bisham Abbey,



Catt, left, and Dallaglio know just how important it is that England improve on their dismal kicking form of last week

enham, Alred and Catt and Dawson went through their routine, again and again. "My degree course involves brain interference through alpha waves," Aired said, "but out in the field, though I'm searching for keys to the process, it is just about perfecting the tools they already have."

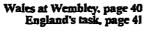
He admires Catt for even trying to be England's kicker. admires his "restart" kicks and his aptitude. "I'm trying to instil the example of Grant Fox [the legendary All Black] and Ollie Campbell, of Ireland. Those guys would kick three to five hundred balls a week, that's what gave them greatness."

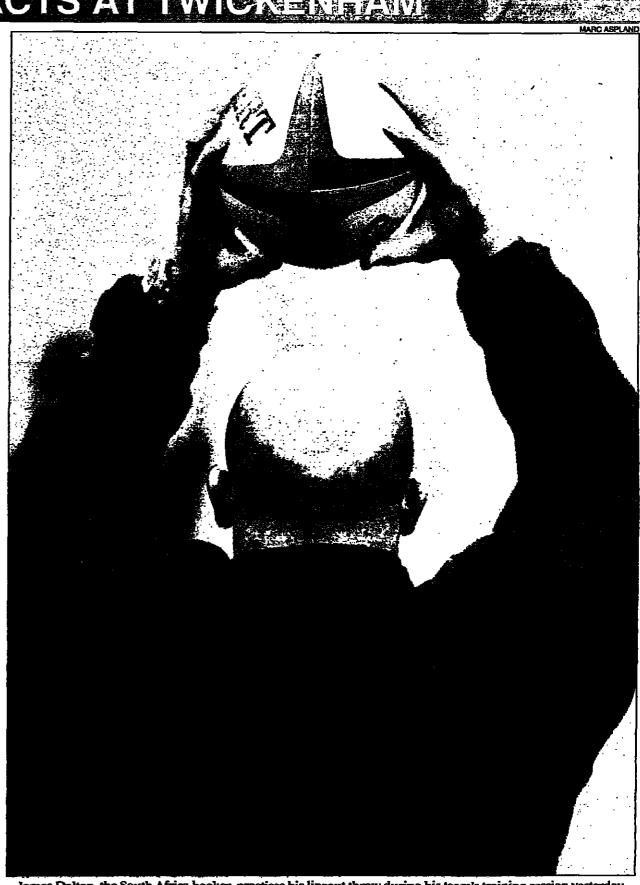
Long-term, Alred seeks a five-year plan to scour the country for young talent, to groom it through competitive coaching for the World Cup of 2003. "We must stop this trend of just buying readymade kickers — great though Joel Stransky and Michael Lynagh are - because sooner or later clubs have to start the process of helping kids to scrap for their place.

That, though, is in the future. England have to find quick solutions to the gap between the southern and northern hemispheres.

There is talent, innate talent, in England," Alred said, "more so than in Australia. But they've found ways to bring it through, we've trusted too long in notions of supremacy and just putting 15 talents on the field. The definition of lunacy is doing the same thing and expecting different results. Once you do what you've always done, you always get what you've got."

Today, at headquarters, the future is now. Don't think about it, flow through the ball.





James Dalton, the South Africa hooker, practises his lineout throw during his team's training session yesterday

### Pop goes football in the court of boy-king Beckham

ay before the three worst singers in the world recorded Three Lions, foothall and pop music merged. Consider the job description: wear very silly trousers/shorts and sweat ior an hour and a half in front of 30,000 screaming fans dressed top to toe in lovely, expensive merchandise.

You could get England squad dolls way before you could get Spice Girl dolls. Those football dolls are brilfiant - Peter Beardsley is next to my pond, with a little fishing rod in his hand; and in a serendipitous manufacturing error, my titchy Andy Cole came with a worky plinth that ensures he fails over constantly. Football managers even speak

pop-star language - Joe Kinnear's moan in a recent programme that Wimbledon's "skill and ability" is

ignored by the critics, comes straight from the Lead Singer's Book of Whining Interviews; whilst Simon Fuller, the deposed Spice Girls manager, would make a wonderful Liverpool manager. He already manages Steve McManaman; and he worked those girls hard.

So, as a music journalist, I didn't feel too hugely out of place at Wimbledon v Manchester United last Saturday, an ideal chance to work out if Karel Poborsky is using an Alice band or just lots of hairpins on that extraordinary 'do. Considering this barnet, and his performance this season, it also allowed me to check my theory that, in the euphoria of Euro 96, Manchester United had accidentally signed Carol Poborsky, a single mum from the Ukraine who'd made the international women's side. Unfortunately, he spent the entire match on the bench with his hood up; so I concentrated instead on Paul Scholes.

I was delighted to find that I recognised him immediately as the star of a birthday card sent to a friend last year. You may recall the picture - it's a rather blustery day. Paul has forgotten to put his pants on and, as he falls, a gust of wind reveals that he keeps a tiny bald mouse in his shorts. I think it's rather sweet that United chose a wee mouse as their masont and take it with them on the pitch for good luck. The oddest thing about Selhurst

Park, however, was discovering that football matches are more orderly and decorous than the average spit 'n' sawdost rock 'n' roll hoe-

As the only time you see football fans on television is when they're either a) drunkenly hugging each other, with their faces painted to look like Flags of All Nations, or b) with blood running down their faces, a baton embedded at a jaunty angle in their heads and using plastic seats as particularly ineffective weapons, I was astonished to find myself in the calm of the family "No Swearing"

o swearing! If this is for the benefit of the children, then staff at Selhurst Park are on a hiding to nothing - children are filthy little swear-weasels. Bands as Dettol-clean as Take That used to inspire banners that read "Robbie point your erection in my direction". The children here were slightly

better trained, satisfying themselves with hoarse cries of "Oi, Beckham! Do you 'Wannabe' playing?" as he warmed up on the touchline. As pop stars have tiny little microsensors in their heads, which trigger the "aloofness" and "deafness" functions on hearing their names bellowed, I was strangely delighted to see that Beckham responded with a boy-king beam and then a slightly twonkier little wave. The Gallaghers could learn a lot about the nobility of fame from Beckham.

There were lots of goals scored in the second half, but I was looking the other way. Some aspects of football were starting to obsess me. Maybe ... maybe Poborsky uses a hairner? Or might it just be mousse?

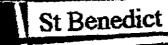
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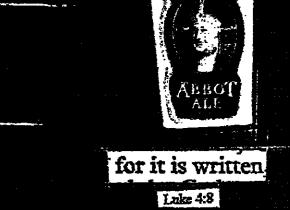


The music journalist ready for a change of tune

I I API AND

spilled the abbot





TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

IN COTHENBURG SWEDEN took a firm grip on

the Davis Cup here yesterday

when their players advanced

to a 2-0 lead in this best-of-five-

rubber final against the Uni-

ted States. Jonas Bjorkman

drew first blood when he

inflicted a punishing defeat on

Michael Chang and Magnus

Larsson extended Sweden's

lead after Pete Sampras, trail-

ing 6-3, 6-7, 1-2, was forced to

withdraw with a pulled call

The injury to Sampras had

the effect of pouring salt into

an already gaping wound. Not only must the United

rubbers to lift the trophy, they

may have to do so without the

world No I. Sampras required

a medical time-out when trail-

ing 4-5 in the second set. His

strapped, but his movement

Three years ago, Sampras

defaulted with an identical calf

injury against Stefan Edberg:

Sweden went on to win both

that semi-final and the Davis

Cup itself. No nation has

recovered from a 2-0 deficit in

the final since Australia over-

came the United States in

recent record against the

world's best player to three

the first to cite the circum-

stances as unsatisfactory, al-

though he had posed Sampras

problems long before the

latter's injury became notice-

able. Larsson's service arm

was like an ancient catapult,

hurling boulders in his oppo-

Bjorkman, for his part, earned his victory the hard

way in an absorbing, if error-

cacophony of rolling drums

and blaring horns, he sur-

vived a stern test of character

nent's direction.

was restricted thereafter.

ankle was heavily

bidding and originally gave Gurov, a southpaw, home advantage, met with the Mayor of Grande Synthe on Thursday and has secured sufficient local support to stage the bout on the other side of the English Channel. Maloney said: " changed the venue because I got a better offer from France. now intend to set up a promotional company there." Nelson will be happy with the change, having beaten Patrick Aouissi to win the European title in Berck-sur-Mer in February. Geoff McCreesh, the British

welterweight champion, was also involved in a guessing game over venues. His challenge for the vacant European title against Michele Piccirillo now goes ahead tonight just outside Milan, the fourth location for the bout. It is difficult for any visitor to come away from Italy with a title, although Robin Reid man-aged it 13 months ago when he claimed the World Boxing Council super-middleweight crown from Vincenzo Nar-

diello, also in Milan. Piccirillo has a record of 24 vins in 25 starts, with 16 inside the distance, which indicates a demanding night for Mc-Creesh. The sole defeat for the Italian came at the hands of Soren Sorensen, a Dane of fair class, in a bout to decide the European Boxing Union light-welterweight title last year. McCreesh, whose record is 18 wins and four defeats, does not really compare, but he is in the best form of his career and it would be unwise to write him off. McCreesh, who overcame personal tragedy after his brother and mother died in car accidents, came back to take the British title from

Kevin Lueshing in July. David Starie, of Ipswich, the weight champion, has injured a hand and has had to withdraw from his contest with Mark Baker, of Sidcup, for the vacant Commonwealth title at the Wembley Arena next Saturday. Baker will now meet Clinton Woods, the unbeaten Sheffield boxer, after the Commonwealth Council approved the bout on a bill featuring Herol Graham, who meets Vinnie Pazienza, the

Wigan fail in bid for Sculthorpe

E RUGBY LEAGUE: A substantial offer by Wigan Warriors for Paul Sculthorpe, 20, the transfer-listed Great Britain loose forward, has been turned down by Warrington Wolves (Christopher Irvine writes). It could take 2 fee close to the record E440,000 that Wigan paid Widnes for Martin Offiah in 1992 to ecure his signature.

London Broncos are maintaining their interest. despite signing five Australian players this week. Steele Retchless and Matt Toshack, from South Queensland Crushers, are the latest additions.

German threat ROWING: Greg Scarle, Britain's leading sculler, will defend his national indoor title at Reading tomorrow, when domestic challengers will include Simon Ďennis, Louis Attrill, Richard Dunn, Dave Beckley and Richard Hamilton from the 1997 British eight. A German threat is offered by Stefan Forster, of Cambridge University, and Jürgen Hecht, who is at Oxford.

Strattord stage **ECYCLING:** British hopes

of victory in the international cyclo-cross event tomorrow on the new, fast Eastway three-kilometre circuit at Stratford, East London, are likely to rest with Nick Craig, the London Open champion, Barrie Clarke, holder of the national title, and Roger Hammond, the former world junior champion. They will face strong opposition from Belgian, German and Swiss riders.

Croatia out BASKETBALL: England face Spain at Plymouth tonight in the second match of their European champiouship qualifying programme but Croatia have nulled out of the nonchampionship game due to be played at Portsmouth

play Leopards, the Budweiser League champions, instead. Tour hat-trick

**E GOLF:** Colin Montgomerie's record fifth successive Order of Merit victory has helped to earn him the PGA European Tour's Johnnie Walker golferof-the-year award for the third successive season.

Sweden build powerful position on opening day of Davis Cup final US hopes crippled by Sampras injury suspended from the stadium's roof. Chang, confronted with a France overhead smash, really should have buried the ball in the crowd, but so well did Bjorkman read his intentions that the Swede immediately regained the initiative. Then, faced with high backhand voiley to claim the point. Bjorkman slipped, somehow up with a drop half-volley. The American ran the ball down but sent his riposte beyond the haseline. A vociferous crowd, in danger of losing interest, suddenly erupted, stirring Bjorkman from his slumber and

مكذا من رلامل

condeming Chang to an experience he will not readily forget. The American capitulated beyond recognition fol-lowing the loss of that point. From 2-3 down, Bjorkman reeled off the next five games before Chang momentarily stopped the rot. By now, however, a youthful skip had returned to Bjorkman's stride. his aggressive approach paying handsomely as he pre-vailed 7-5, 1-6, 6-3, 6-3 in five minutes short of three hours.

Chang felt that the crowd's enthusiastic contribution made no impact on the match. However, the noise that greeted Biorkman winning an extended rally must have lifted his spirits. A posse of drummers - accompanied by horn players, bellringers and whistle blowers --- gave this the feel

of beach football in Brazil. It was more than Chang could deal with. He looked thoroughly dejected afterwards, savaging his own efforts to provide his country was a pretty important point I

with a winning start. "I just don't know what happened out there," he said. "The first set was a disaster, just a joke. I picked it up after that, but that lost to go 4-2 up in the third set. Not only am I disappointed, I feel like I let the other

ing Bjorkman 6-1 in the second. He was serving for a 4-2 lead in the third, and stood at enough to destabilise a tanker. the match. That was the big It was a rally Chang had turnaround for me," the

Bjorkman, who beat Chang in four sets, puts maximum effort into a forehand return. Photograph: Cristof Stache

match was a crushing experience for Chang, after he had from the loss of the opening

rebounded with typical gusto rally was enough to release the demons which have haunted

way through the third set was several opportunities to terminate, yet it concluded with him

the net-cord judge.

Bjorkman, until then in a deep

trough of his own, took the

point, and with it, the momen-

tum to run clean away with Swede acknowledged.

So much of that rally was reflective of a match in which ascendancy changed with frustrating regularity. Chang had responded to dropping the opening set by overwhelmgame point, when his cause spiralled hopelessly out of control.

From an attacking position. Bjorkman was forced onto the defensive when his lob some-

SNOOKER: RECOVERY OF STEVENS SPARKED BY THREAT OF WHITEWASH IN UNITED KINGDOM CHAMPIONSHIP

### Hendry attacks as best form of defending record



Hendry: efficient

dwision: Torington v Paynsham MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division south:

amistanti Taragina y Paymaran

Aminerva Spartan South MDLands

League: Premier division south:

Harchot v Amerishan Haringey Boro v

Borungs de Hälmgdon Boro v Goddoders;

Public Manor v Beatstaffed St

Margarisbury v Harnett, Watham Asbory v

Brock House, Woodford v Brinsdown

Fremer division north: Alexey Town v

Langford: Begleswade v Potters Bor;

Forting an Amietre v London College,

Hoddescon v Herberden, Meton Reynes v

Brathe Spart Royston v Wetnyn Garden

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First

division: Assenti v Outers, Park Rangers

1110: Forting Palace v Portsmouth (11.0);

Fuham v Cambridge Util (11.0), Norwich v

Jahana (11.0); Southarend v Gelingham

(11.0); Totterham v Charton (10.30),

//artifror v Levron Onent (11.0); Second

division: Bournamouth v Luton (11.0);

Codenster v Reading (11.0); Oddord Util

Varmet (11.0); Southarphon v Bristy Rowers

(11.0); Susmitton v Brighton (11.0); Wimble
Levron (11.0); Septimpon v Bristy Rowers

(11.0); Susmitton v Brighton (11.0); Wimble
Levron (12.0); Susmitton v Brighton (11.0); Susmitton v Brighton v Brighton (11.0); Susmitton v Brighton v

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND

COMBINATION: Premier division: Bistor Community College v Wellesbourne Botons Seets v Northeoton, Chestyn Hay v

Can't Legic Art OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier divisions Entires OS 7 Gyn OB; Old Suffamans v Cardinal Manning OB Senior first divisions Old Registens v Old Kingsburians

End Varroires y Viest Wickham Poly-ledend / Carshelron Windmore Hill v Old Enhanciano Old Owans y Old Lotymerano Southgate Olympic v Itas Old

COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES

SOURANS: COMBINED COOKINGS
Fremier division: Ash y Core.
Bodiont y Mersbarn Felman y CookingBodiont y Wash Sports: Farnham y
Crossington and Hook Godalming and
Gustont y Westfield, Reading Town y
Farness Fel Vale, Sandhurst y Achtord,
Walton Casualty Nethorne,
Martin West Ann antice i Carolist, Seven

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Pire

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE, Premier

IN OMINOUSLY efficient tive appearance in the final of the Liverpool Victoria United Kingdom championship by establishing a 6-2 lead over Matthew Stevens at Preston Guild Hall yesterday.

The only negative for the title-holder, who at the end of a high-quality session stood only three frames away from extending his winning sequence at the event to 23 matches, was a failure to compile a landmark 400th century break in professional

competition. Hendry, understandably confident after his quarter-final victory over Alan the first round of the Grand McManus, had the opportuni-ty to reach that mark in each

Prix last year, accounted for the last two frames of the of the first five frames. He scored runs of 85, 81, 68, 62 and 9b, but wasted two particular- of hope. ly clear-cut openings.

In the second frame, on 81, Hendry missed an elementary black off its spot with the remaining balls ideally situated and in the lifth, on 96, he jawed a pink to a distant pocket. Even so, when Hendry cleared brown to black in the next, to move 6-0 ahead, the possibility of a whitewash could not be discounted.

upset by beating Hendry 5-1 in session with contributions of 83 and 97 to retain a glimmer

Ronnie O'Sullivan described his form as "embarrassing" after beating Gerard Greene 9-6 in the quarterfinals. While this is undoubtedly not the case, it is true that Stephen Lee has the ability to exploit any shortcomings when they meet today. The discontent voiced by

O'Sullivan is reminiscent of his feelings during the 1993

Aberdeen GSFP v Stewartry (2.0) ... Ayr v Selfork (2.0) ..... Glasgow Southern v H-thead Jordanhill (2.0) ....

Grangemouth (20)

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: London Counties Under-21 v New Zealand Under-21 (at Twickernam, 11 45)

CLUB MATCHES: Pymouth v Penzance (2.36) Predict: Grassmoopers v Yalday Lonsdate (2.15)

Third division

In the final he defeated Hendry 10-6. The Scot, who has protected a 100 per cent record at the Guild Hall since then, admitted to underesti-

proving with every match, he

became at 17 years and 11

mating O'Sullivan, but there is no likelihood of that if they renew their rivalry for the £75,000 first prize as expected tomorrow. Meanwhile, the political in-

stability that plagued snooker a year ago is again threatening to resurface. A board

Holcombesans, Worthing v Old Bordensans, Middy/Berlis/Buoks and Oxon: Amersham v Fairham Common: Bradenel v PHC Chswick Offy of Oxford v Lons, Gernards Cross v Hayes: Hendon v Phoeno, Newbury v Suntiury, Old Kingstonens v Ashford, Staines v Richings Park West Hampstead v Marlow, Wokingham v Milton Kyvnes

cussed. Ian Doyle, head of the Team

months the youngest winner called for Monday, when the of a world-ranking tourna-

GdeZ Capital Management Group that includes Hendry. O'Sullivan and Ken Doherty. the world champion, is a staunch supporter of Mc-Kenzie, who many believe has made a favourable initial impression within the game since his appointment during the summer and has not yet been given sufficient time to prove his worth.

Snooker Association has been

### FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

Australia v New Zealand

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

Umpires: S Davis (Australia) and R B Titler (Zimbabwe). Second Test match India v Sri Lanka

tN R Mongra c Muraktharan b Pushpakumara

TALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-152, 3-182, 4-272, 5-303, 6-482, 7-476, 8-494, 9-494, 8OWLING: Vans 31-3-80-2; Puchipelumera 32-3-122-5; Sava 28-6-81-0; Munistraran 46-9-137-0; Rensumpa 1-0-8-0; Jayasunya 16-4-32-2; Alapettu 1-0-4-0.

and V K Ramasarany (India).

TOUR MATCH (second day of four): Perific South Africans 468 (G Kinsten 201, S M Pollock 100. P L Symoos 34; J Stewart 4-121); Western Australia: 17-1 (M E Hussey 58 not out).

SHEPTHED SHIELD (second day of four): Melbourna: South Australia: 452 (D Pizgerald 81, D S Webber 69, B Young 68, J D Siddons 60); Vetoria: 144-2 (D M Jones 58 not out, L Harper 59) Brisberse: Tasmania

307 (D. J. Marsh 82 not out; S. Muller 5-73) and 12-2; Queensland 237 (J. P. Maher 71). SUPERSPORT SPIESS: First day of four: Durbers: Nates v Eastern Province — no play, rain. Johanneshung: Gauteng 89 (C. Foreven 6-56); Fixe State 15-0. Johanneshung: Boland 100 (P. S de Villers 4-35, M. J. R. Rindel 4-17); Northern Trassvaal 41-4. Second day of four. Kimberfey: Border 278; Griqualand West 257 (L. Bosman 77).

S Draper and L. Memmer, 4, T Dotmen and A Owen; 6, B and L. Droise; 6, M and D Lucas. Professional Latin: 1, B Watson and K Hardy, 2, P Kilick and V Toft: 3, G and N Nordin: 4, P Richardson and L Dawson: 5, J Byrnes and J Lyttleton; 6, M Lurm and J Baltotr. Amateur Standard: 1, C Hawlons and H Newbern; 2, A and D Shingler; 3, J Crossley and K Jones; 4, M Felly and V Hobden; 5, C Draper and V Hill; 6, G Taptin and L Harmond Amateur Latin: 1, M and N Curler; 2, A Grundy and L Palmer; 3, A Kasing and K Beessley; 4, M Robertson and C House; 5, D Welson and M Karlsson; 6, D Bernnet and L Kopylova. Linder-21 Standard: 1, A Wallew end H Denton-Holmes; 2, B Redmond and S Wood; 3, L Portus and J Spance; 4, V Semona and F Cacaco, 5, W Boyce and H Dewey; 6, P McCann and V Martin Linder-21 Latin: 1, D Bernnet and L Kopylova; 2, Juordan and E Haraldsdoth; 3, P Hutbey and L Bellinger; 4, Simona and Cacaco; 5. McCarm and Martin; 6, N Ouesnot and J Gring

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: West Ham 6 lpswich 0. SUROPEAN CUP CHAMPIONS' LEA-GUE: Group A: Borusse Dormund 4 Galatassray 1; Porma 2 Speris Preque 2. Group B: Manchester United 3 FC Kostos

Group C Dynamo Klev 1 PSV Endhoven
 Group D: FC Porto 2 Olympiakus 1:
Rosenborg 2 Real Machd 0.
DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Cup: Second

GOLF

MELBOURNE Australian Open: Leaders after two rounds (Australia unless stated). 133: N O'Hern 67, 68, 134: L Washmood (GB) 68, 68, 136: G Norman 68, 67, 138: B Patricipe 68, 69, 58, 138: S Issany 68, 72, 138: A Coltan (68) 65, 74: SA Aprilaty. 69, 70: P Devenport (NZ) 69, 70, 140: C Parry 70, 70: R Darmon (LS) 68, 72: P Lonard 63, 71, 141: G Evans (CS) 70, 71: P Sentor 66, 73: 142: G Chairners 70, 72: R Allenty 68, 74: V Singh (Fil) 73, 69; C Scence 67, 75: D Anderson 67, 75: J Coope, 71, 71, M Calcassochis (US) 69, 73.

finals: Reading 4 Purley 4 (Reading win 3-2 on pens): Bromley 7 West London Institute 5 Final: Reading 9 Bromley 5 Maldenhead: Semi-final: Maldenhead 8 Hendon 7. Final: Teddington 8 Maldenhead 1 (Reading and Teddington quality for national stands).

ICE HOCKEY SUPERLEAGUE: Basingstoke Bison 3 Brackneff Bees 1. EXPRESS CUP: Cardiff Davils 1 Newcastle

Eagles 0.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Ottawa 3
Washington 1; St Louis 2 Los Angeles 2.
Calgary 2 Chicago 2: Phoents 1 Dalias 4. SHOOTING

LANGKAWI, Melaysia: Commonwealth champlonahips: Smellbore free rifle: Three-positions: 1, C Hector (Eng.) 1,239brts, 2, A Recark (Malaysia) 1,236.2 3, R Law (Soot) 1,218.3 Skeet: 1, M homoson (Soot) 1,442; 2, K Christos (Cyprus) 1,442; 3, R Thorpe (NZ) 1,442 (order decided after te-breaker) Men's eir pistot. 1, G Yelawch (NZ) 699.2; 2, J Rana (India) 888.7; 3, N Baxder (Engl 660 SAILING

WHITEREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Second leg (Cape Town to Fremente): Final positions: 1. Swedish Melich (Swe) Intighed ether 15 days 3th 45min 3ses; 2. Immedia (Nas) 16-05:12-12: 4. Sik. Cut. (SB) 1615:05:09; 5. Ethanguage (Swe) 16:20:08:00; 6. Chessle Reong (US) 17:11:51:47; 7, Merit Cup (Monaco) 18:02:37:07; 8. Ethousation (Swe) 19:10:15:32-9, BrunelSunergy (Holl) 19:11:24:39. Volvo Trophy positione: 1, Introvetion Kveemer 207pis; 2. Eff Language (SP; 3. Sik. Cut. 188; 4. Swedish Match 181; 5. Marti Cup. 188; 6. Toshba 187; 7. Chessle Pacing 132; 8, Eff. Education 80; 9, BrunelSunergy 36.

SNOOKER

PRESTON: Liverpool Viotoria UK Champi-onathp: Quarter-finals: S Hendry (Soci) bit. A Molitanus (Soci) 9-5; R O'Sullivan (Engli-bit G Greene (Eng) 9-6. Semi-final: Hendry leads M Stephens (Wales) 6-2.

MONACO: Women's Monte Carlo Cles-sic Quarter-finetic S Fiz-Gerald (Aus) bt C Nich (SA) 9-2, 9-4, E lywng (Aus) wo 5 Schöne (Ged.): S Winght (Eng) bt J Martin (Eng) 4-9, 9-0, 9-8, 0-8, 0-2 L Charman (Eng) 10-8, 9-8, 9-2

TENNIS

GOTHENBURG: Davis Cup: Final: Sweden 2 United States 0 (Sweden names first.) J Bjorkman bi M Chang 7-5, 1-8, 6-3, 6-3; M Lersson bi P Sempras 3-6, 7-8, 2-1 ref. BURBANK, California: Health-South-USTA BURBANN, California: Health South-USTA challenger toursement: Second round: Surgeen (Am) but Recirce (US) 8-2, 8-2, 8 MacPhe (US) MA Hurr (NC) 2-6, 6-4, 7-6, 7-6-4, M Sonrier (Ger) 6-3, 3-4, 6-4, M Sonrier (Ger) bt G Doyle (Aus) 6-2, 6-4, 7-6, R Jeshi (Gr) bt G Doyle (Aus) 6-2, 6-4, 7-6, R Jeshi (Gr) bt J Salzerstein (US) 6-1, 7-6, R Assess (US) bt B Course (US) 7-6, 6-3, R J Sett (US) bt D D Muster (Can) bt G Besti (Switc) 7-6, 6-3, R J D Restor (Can) bt G Besti (Switc) 7-6, 6-3, R J D R Sett (US) from the more first L Woodroffe lost to A Svensson 3-6, 4-6, 5 Smith bt A Undstact 4-6, 6-4, 6-3); Austria 1 France 0.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES Bustleholme v Bloowich S, Ettingshall v Stafford T, Gomal A v Wolverhampton C, kington Town v Stourport S; Luddow T v Lye Town, Malvern T v Cradley Town Tindale v Dadaston; Walisall Wood v Wolverhampton. COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENC LEAGUE: Premier division: Almondsbury v Kintbury. Faidord v Wartage: Tulfley v Shortwood ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE: JEWSON EASTERN COUNTES LEAGUE: Premier division: Clarity ... GUE: Premier division: Cladion v Folostowe Port and: Harwach and Park-ston v Elv. Newmarkst v Halstead, Soham v Sudbury, Sudbury v Lowestott Tiptree v Bury Town, Wartons v Stormarkst, Woodandge Town v Histon MOSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: FIRST 
division: Censenus y Greenwine Orstnamy, Herne Bay Connthan y Deat, Cray y 
Shoopa, Crook anhii y Folivestone Innacta, 
Shiri y Therecomead Faversham y Bedchram Ramogale i Hythe Stade Green y 
Lordanood Tundridge Walls y Swarley 
Furnacy, Whistable Town / VCO 
SCREWPIK DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier 
division: Tundridge Weisham |

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE First di-vision: Lymington y Thatcham Town, Acrostinctures y Bournerouth, BAT Chrischurch, East Cowes y Dawnton Eastleigh y Whitchurch, Gosport y Totton, Portsmouth y Andower Wimborne y Bernorton Heaft. Destination recast UNITED COUNTIES LEA-GUE: Premier division: Briston v Ford Sports, Boune v Eynesbury, Kompation v Long Buckty, Northampton Spencer v Yadey, Potion v Buckingham, St Neots v Desborough, Startford v Woothon, Stoffold v Holbeach Welkingborough v Mirrhous Blackstone

Halsham

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Boldmize S. M. v. Blownch Town, Bridghorth
Oktobury Cresserven v. Wedneyfield, Pelsal
V. v. Stricha T. Ruchali O. v. Strafford T.
Sandwell v. Kinos. Notion. Stapenhill v.
Kimponsley V. W. Mig Police v. Pershale T.
Wellenhali v. Rocester

V. Mighania C. R. R. C. L. FACULTON.

Wilenhelf v Rocester
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE:
Pramier division: Annthorpe Welfare v
Hallam, Brigg Town v Eccleshell, Denazhy v
North Ferriby: Ossett Albon v
Glasshoughton Welfare, Pickering v Curzon
Astrion: Pontutract Coto v Ossett Town:
Setby v Uversedge, Sheffield v Haffield
Main, Thackley v Hudenall Town

RUGBY LEAGUE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Pro-Mirrers v Looi Lane (2.30) Saddictorom v Egyamont (2.30) Walney Cormai v Mayheld (2.0) First division: Blacktorook v Shak Cross (2.30), Eachmoor v Mildord (2.30), Mildom v Laigh East (2.0), Mildogreen v East Leeds (2.0); Siratsugh v Barrook (2.0nd (2.0), Fromfully Redfull (2.0) Second division: Devisbury Moor v Siddel (2.0), Eccles v Crossfelds (2.30), Feetherstone Amateur v York Acom (2.0), New Earswick v Dodworth (2.0), Overiden v Hull Dockers (2.0)

RUGBY UNION

(at Lanedowne Roed, 1 45) ...

Saracens v Tonga XV (3.0)..... Cheltenham and Gloucester Cup

West Hartlepool v Fylde (3 0) .....

TETLEY'S BITTER COUNTY CHAMP-IONSHIP. South: Pool B: Dorset and Wilshing v Gloucestership (at Bourne-

Bonymaen v Newbridge (3.0). Mentnyr v Dunvant (2.30)

International match

keland v Canada

Tour match

Weish Leegue First division

RUGBY UNION England v South Africa (at Twickenham, 2.0) .... -Wales v New Zealand (at Wembley, 3.0) ... ..

Cheltersham and Gloucester Cup Orrell v Rotherham (12 0) Group C Sale v Bristol (120)

Cambridge Univ v Blackheath (3.0) . London Scottish v Bedford (11.30)

Hindkley v Aspatna (2 30) Nuneaton v Stourbndge (2 30) Second division south

North Walsham v Met Police (3.0) ...

NORTH: First division: Hall kinlans v West Park Bramhope, Middlectorough v Macdes-leid, Stockton v Bridlington

TETLEY'S BITTER COUNTY CHAMP-IONSHIP: North: Pool A: Currbna v Nothighamshas Lincolinshire and Derbyshire (at Pennith, 2 30) Wannocahre v Durham tat Ruigby 2 30) Pool B: Lecestershire v Chamrie (at Syston, 2 30). North Midlands v Lancashase (at Stouthinge, 2.15) Pool C: Northumberland v Statfordshire (at Morpeth, 2 0) Vorteshor v East Midlands (at Shelffeld, 2 15). South, Pool A: Conwall v Stasser (at Reduch, 2 30) Pool B: Hentordshire v Berichire (at Taberd, 2 30) Pool C: Hampshire v Middlesex (at Tironton, 2.0); Oxfordshire v Somerset (at Benbury, 2.30).

Tennents Premiership

HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division:
Barford Tigers / East Grinstead (at Alumenti
Community Centre, Inaisas, 12.0). Beestin
v. Houriston: Yar Hunhfolds, Nichtingham,
130. Centrole. Gunddind at Mons
Ground, 12.0). Deneaster v. Canterbury (at
Bernstrance, 2.0). Southquate v. Old
Loughtomano, 137. Trent. Park, 2.0).
Technique, 2.0). Southquate v. Old
Loughtomano, 137. Trent. Park, 2.0).
Technique, 2.0). Farst division: Brooklands v.
Gloudester, Ch., 13f. Georgeo, Food, Sale,
2.0). Order food / 37. Alband, fat Chaimer
Park, 2.15). Havar v. Bournville, jat Havant
Cotego, 1-50). Hall, Orderd Hawlet, (at
Cotego, 1-50). Loughborough Students, (at
Exert School, 12.0). Lineas v. Hampstland
and Mesthurser (at Southetawn Club,
1.30. Orderd University v. Harteston Magpias, 1-2. Studentin, School, 12.0).
Stoutfort v. Sudentin, all Koderminster
School, 1.30: Subtoon v. Fristmands (at
Sugder, Road, 10). Warmington v. Bromley
(at Pennant County PS, 1.30).
ESL SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier League:

Sugger Hose 1 of Varanigion v promey (at Penketh County 15 1 30)
ESL SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier Leaguer: Bedrenten v Oct Whightens: Bourne-mouth v Chambers City of Portsmouth v Exitatore Fereinam v Anchorano, Goro Court v Hente Bay, Remgarha v Madenhead Pubrinord v Putry Tropare v High Wydomos Turthinogs Wells v Wimbledon, Windrador v Bandard Barnes v Old Widouthars Camberley v Portsmouth, Escam v Duvron, London University v Bengstalle, Old Mid-Whitgiftens v Old Oralleghams Cold Scorgens v Goor, Council v Deba. Spender v Geam. Kentifesseed Seeley Invoda v Fostedding-Backbeath v Behof, English v Middelin-Bogrum Burnt, Ash v Mander Russetts Bank v Horsteam, Newtanon v Ashfard, Sevendaks v Mid Succes. Tulse Hill v Old

OTHER SPORT

Sent-man Pawish v Spania v Pyrikami Pawishn:

BOXING: World Busing Organisation and International Boxing Pederation inter-continental Boxing Pederation inter-continental Bight-wellenweight champonship: J Traction (Norwich, Indice) v R Bass; Stall et Norwich Sponts Villages: European wetenweight championship: M Pcortilo (ft. holder) v G McGressh (Bracknet) (in Ban).

ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Notingham v Beangrate (7 0); Bracknet V Ayr (6.0).

LACROSSE: Stepherds Friendly Society League: Premier of Meller v Stockport v Pownior; Cheadle Murne v Humann; Timperlay v Hesten Mersey: Old Waconians v Cheadle, Meller v Smithal University SNOCKER; Leeppol Victora UK champ-

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: European championship: Semi-final: England v Spain (at Plymouth

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Indiana

Keynes
DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE MIDLAND
LEAGUE: Premier division: Blossomfield v
North Notis, Coverny and North Wawwciss v
Hampton-Arden, Edphaston v Harborne,
Khaisa v Northampton Seatis, North Stelmest warwicks.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Ben Rhydding v Chesser: Durham University v Shefisid Bankors; Necton v Timperley, Norton v Harrogate, Southport v Wigan: Swalwell v Formby

ADNAMS EAST LEAGUE: Premier di-vision A: Bishop's Stortland v Luton Town;

instan A: Bishop's Startland v Lubon Town; Cambridge University v Ippaieth, Clacton v Colchisotter, Crostyx v Cambridge City; Sudbury v Paterborousph Tr. Prenter division B: Bodford v Rodbridge and stord, Bury S: Edmunds v Romford, Dereham v Old Southendain; S: Nea v Norwich City. West Hents v Ipswich and East Suffolk. WEST OF ENGLAND AND SOUTH WALES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristol University v Cheltenham; Robinsons v Swensea, Taumton Valle v Baith Buccaneers; Westion-super Mare v Exister University; Whistomich v Glevedon.

Whichurch v Clevedon.
WOBEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Slough v Hightown (12.0); Ciliton Scotlah Life v Suffon Coldield (12.36); Trojans v Otton Terraquest (13.00), Donicatier v Ipswich (12.0). First division: Cartesfoury v. Loughborough Students (12.0). Wimbledon v Bradhnell (12.0); Leoester v Bardford Swiftenbank (12.30); Sunderland Badans v Chelmaland Highway (12.30). Second division: Old Loughbonaus v Woking Smits (1.0); West Weiney v Ealing (12.0), Blunkarts v Sherwood (12.30), Aldmigo v Poyntion (2.0); WELSH WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: WELSH WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Cardiff Athletic v Newport Column Bay v Portypidd: Susmisea v Penartic Cardiff Institute v Newtown

Institute v Newfouri
WOMEN'S REGIONAL LEAGUES: East
Ashford v Ipawor, Bury Sr Editunds v
Weavyn Garden Cay Harleston v Denman;
St Albano v Sevenoars, Midlands: Belpe v
Ormson Rembles: Harreston v Persinck;
Leicestor v Koftening; North Staffs v Luton
North: Chester v York: Leyland M v
Stroffield: Liverpool Selton v Blackburn;
Welton v Winnington Park, South: Dutwich v
Tulse Hill, Hendon v Winchester: Horstern v
Harrystead; Maldenhead v Southampton:
Winchmore Hill v Reading, West Colvoil v
Bournsmouth; Euter v Leonarstor;
Eurouth v St Austell, Redland v Cheltenham; Taunkon Vale v Yate

SNOOKER: Liverpool Victoria UK champ-lonship (in Prestori).

colourful American.

**AMERICAN FOOTBALL** NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL) Detroit 55 Chicago 20; Dallas 14 Tennessee 27.

HOBART (second day of five): Australia have scored 273 for five wickets against

AUSTRALIA: First Innings
M T G Elirot of Young b McMalan. 114
"M A Taylor b O'Connor 18
G S Bewelt b Doul 99
M E Waugh not out 21
S R Waugh not out 21
S R Waugh of McMalan b Doul 7
R T Ponting o Penore b Caims 4
H A Healy not out 3 

Total (5 wides) 273
PR Rediel, S K Warne, M S Kasprowcz and S H Cook to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-41, 2-238, 3-238, 4-246, 5-266. 4-2-6, 3-206. BOWLING: Doubl 24-9-58-2. O'Connor 28-6-71-1; Calms 29-12-64-1, Astle 12-5-32-0, McMillan 13-4-34-1; Vetton 2-0-9-0 NEW ZEALAND: M J Home, B A Young, TAC Parore, "SP Flemma, RG Twose, C D McMullan, N J Asile, C L Carms, D L Vetton, S B Douil, S B O'Connor.

NAGPUR (thet) day of five) India have scored 485 against Sn Lanka

N S Sictinu & Abapatitu b Vaas R S Dravid c Atapattu b Vaas . "S R Tendulkar b Pustipakumara A Kunthia run qui ..... 

Total ......

16-43-2 Aspetto 1-0-40.

RS Marianama, P A de Saka, "A Ramaturga, H P Ritelaname, 1L K L de Saka, W P U J C Vasa, Is Aurainnera, K R Pushpakumsa, K J Saka, L Umpires C J Machiev (South Africa) 
and V K Ramasaamy (India).

DANCE SPORT

BLACKPOOL: National characteristics: Professional Standard: 1, A Sindrason and C Jorgensen; 2, Thowson and J Botton; 3, S Draper and L Memner; 4, T Dokman and A Owen; 6, B and L Diolet; 6, M and D Luces, Erobesteres Litera, 1 BW there are

FOOTBALL .

round: Gloucester 2 Newport AFC 2 AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Noreich 1 Watford 1 PONTEN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Aston VRs 1 Eventon 1: Liverpool 0 Stoke 1 JEWSON, WESSEX LEAGUE: First of-vision: Whitchurch 1 Gospor 1. THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: First-round ring spiles of Swindon 0 (ast, Bristoline policy). Existo 6 Swindon 0 (ast, Bristoline Rouses win 10-8 on pens).
DUTCH LEAGUE: Volendem 3 FC Gronningen 1; RKC Washinks 1 NAC Breds 0.
SOUTH AMERICAN SUPERCOPA; Soral-

HOCKEY

Group D

London Welsh v Morley (2 15) Second division porth

Second division 

**TOMORROW** mouth, 2:30). Pool C: Surrey Buckinghamshire (at Imber Court, 3:0). HOCKEY EHA MEN'S CUP: Fifth round: Bartord Tigers v Reading (at Alumwell Community Centre, Walsali, 20); Boeston v Southgale Centre, Watsali, 20): Boeston v Southgale (at Highfiolds, Notmingham, 20): Cannot 230): Contrets and Moms Ground, 24 v). Cartesbury v Hourslow (at Polo Farm, 1.0), Inchester v Hampstead and Westminster (at Kingsham Fields 10), Inswech v Stoutport (at Tuddenham Round, 12 30), Ote Cranleoghams v Spalding (at Portsmorth Road, Thames Daton, 130): St Albane v Dentaster (at Clarence Park 10). EHA WOMEN'S CUP: Fourth round: Bracknell v Epsam (1.0), Bradford v Stouthamston (t. Ol); Didsbury Greys v Trojans (at Manchester HS, 1.30): Dental (cannot be contrargion (1.0); Didsbury Greys v Trojans (at Manchester HS, 1.30): Dental (cannot be contrargion (1.0); Didsbury Greys v Trojans (at Manchester HS, 1.30): Dental (cannot be contrargion (1.0)).

caster i Buerars (10:30). Ealing v Lecoster (at Eastbote HC, 2:15): Exeler v Aldhogo (1:30): Hartestan Magnes v Dereksan 12:0): Hohartestan v Carterbury (at Formby CC, 12:0): Loudribosough Students v Carmoon Rambiers (2:34); Citoniv Tauration Vale (2:0): Poyntan v Crammedod (1:30): Sunbury v Weston (1:0): Sutton Colditiol v Sandon (2:30). Vincey Bay v Caffon (at Temple Park SC, 11:0), Working S v Wentbiscon (1:30)

CYCLING: Interestoral cyclo-closs (at Eastway Cro. Strafford, Eest London, 1-30). ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Straffeld v Bracknell (7.0). Express Cup: Manchesier (6.0). Basingstoke v Ayr (6.0). SNOOKER: Liverpoot Victoria UK champ-lanship (in Prestur)

BO CAN

# A chilling tale of two beards

hat ho, chaps — a feud! All week Chelsea supporters have been producing match programmes to show me the harsh words said about this column by their chairman Ken Bates. At first I thought Ken might be upset over the fact that I like to draw attention to the fact that, at a club notorious for Fancy Danism, this Chelsea squad are setting new standards for foppish posturing.

Who can forget the squealing that arose when the club played in Norway in temperatures which, although chilly, were by many degrees warmer than those which munitions factory workers laboured under in two world wars?

Ken may not have been behind the Whining That Shamed British Football, but he must take credit for one of the more far-seeing schemes which was mooted back in the potty mid-Eighties, when identity cards and electronic tagging of fans seemed to be on the way. For it was Ken who fought long and hard for the introduction of electric fences into his ground, which might show the Stainford Bridge faithful just where their £10

### In memoriam

ITV would like to thank all those who sent cards and messages of condolence following the tragic death of their football match, Barcelona v

Newcastle, on Wednesday night. The fixture died quietly, in its sleep, in front of 150 supporters, and is not thought to have suffered, unlike the millions of waiting Coronation Street fans. It will be buried without fuss in the scramble to broadcast any football, no matter how pointless. Ian St John is 106.

☐ Danny Baker is on Talk Radio (1053-1089am) every Saturday from 5.30pm.

admission fee ended and Celebrity Row began.

I remember one magnificent TV interview in which the Kentoliah, white beard a-bristlin', urged reporters to see that football fans were little better than organised cut-throats, and that five million volts of the sudden and juicest were the only language these people might understand. I liked him then and I still do.

However, I think it is another reason — and a far more credible fear — which has led to his theatrical attack upon this still young space. That is Millwall's early exit from the FA Cup. It is a matter of public record that, most seasons, in one cup or another, Chelsea come a cropper to their neighbours from The Den.

If I had a pound for every time we've brought low the High Living Lads From Fashionable King's Road, then I would buy the club and have them cut out the panstick and highlights and concentrate on being a credible opposition who might, occasionally, punch their weight. Anyhow, this season Wimbledon and Bristol City have done Mr Bates's dirty work for him and with his ever-alert brain free of this potentially humiliating cloud, he now sets about harassing the Lions' No I supporter with impunity. I, of course, shall keep my own counsel.

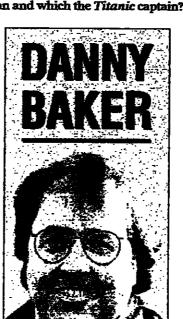
Lastly, a third, comic, thought occurs. With the imminent release of the epic film Titanic, ordinary people might begin to notice that Ken Bates bears a starting resemblance to that fated ship's Captain, E. J. Smith. Aside from the usual crass connection made between the Unsinkable Liner and Ruud Gullit's first XI, it will surely not escape historians' attention that the final movements of Captain Smith were never satisfactorily accounted for. Could they be one and the same person? They certainly seem to share an aversion to Arctic conditions.



Which is the Chelsea chairman and which the Titanic captain? Could they be related? Or possibly one and the same person?

### One more lookalike

I know the column has used up its lookalike quotient, but if someone gets in with this one before next week I shall rage like Rumplestiltskin. Here it is. Recent photographs of Christian Gross, the disastrous new managerial appointment under whom Spurs wili be lucky to win a corner, must surely make the heart leap of any keen fan of the Pink Panther. For with his hooded eyes, pursing mouth and intense demeanour we are staring into the mirror reflec-tion of Herbert Lom, much praised for his portrayal of Commissioner Dreyfuss — Inspector Clouseau's slow-burning boss. Soon we shall see the development of hilarious Dreyfuss-style facial tics and un-stable rambling in Herr Gross and the picture will be complete.



### Heads you lose

One of the most noble sporting pursuits in the world has been rocked by scandal. Researchers this week say they can find no evidence that Afghanistan tribesmen have ever played polo with a human head. Who are these busybodies who travel the globe smugly stripping away whatever shreds of exotica still remain on our daily less mysterious rock? What good can it do them to smash the wonder from little boys' imaginations and remove from pub conversation the one sporting topic that united both public and saloon? The image of an Afghan horseman expertly navigating his speeding charger among the

opposition, spotting a gap in their

defence, and then, with one swift

arc of is upturned rifle butt.

crisply firing home the sightless loaf of a former enemy from all of 30 yards is one I have carried with awe for nearly 30 years. Indeed, with a regularly

recharged glass and a hushed company, I have often taken a little licence and claimed to have been actually present at such exhibitions while travelling from Herat to Kandahar. Now, thanks to the unwanted meddling of a quango of idiotic students who probably wouldn't know a severed human head from a Panama hat, I look a complete and utter fool. If these pipe-sucking killjoys next come sniffing around the legend

of Bert Trautmann and his famous broken neck, I'm afraid I may have to take matters into my

### **Fantasy** game of one half

After a recent appeal to find what extra frisson is experienced by a gay man at a football match, I receive a tremendous letter from a Simon of Leigh-on-Sea. While the phrase "fantasy football" may have been done to death, it is perhaps the only one adequate for the intense mental visions Simon has built up during his time on the terraces. His letter arrives complete with Panini stickers of the players who make his pulse pick up the tempo, alongside a few words of the function they serve in the active erotic spring of Simon's libido. I am indebted to him for sharing his daydreams with me, and pass them along to

l. John Speacer (Queens Park Rangers): With those tough, build-er looks, I imagine him al fresco beside a half-built house among bits of wood and empty concrete sacks. No hard hats, but he is wearing a check shirt and torn,

2. Duncan Ferguson (Everton): With that natural arrogance which is so plainly Duncan, I imagine a master-servant situation. Obviously he holds the whip.

3. Steve McManaman (Liver-

pool): Steve is that really goodlooking bloke whom you see across a bar and who flirts outrageously with you all night.
4. Ugo Ehiogu (Aston Villa): My yearning for something exotic results in us sharing drinks, then a

heated whirlpool bath. 5. Ryan Giggs (Man Utd): One word — watersports.

6. David Beckham (Man Utd): We

get talking and he lets me educate him as to the error of his ways with the least appropriately named Spice Girl.

Here, Simon's squad terminates because, rather sweetly, he doesn't want to part with his stickers of Henning Berg. Mark Pembridge. Neil Ardley, Chris Armstrong and Jamie Redknapp, and feels the magic will not work in description

Perhaps he is right. For myself, I can't quite shake off the feeling that, because of a path denied to me by a whim of nature, all my life I have watched but half a match.

CRICKET: TROUBLED WEEK PRECEDES SECOND INTERNATIONAL AGAINST CONFIDENT PAKISTAN

### West Indies survive test of patience

THAT was the week that was for West Indies. From Peshawar, where they lost the first Test match against Pakistan inside four days, they travelled to Hyderabad, where they declared the hotel accommodation unacceptable and returned to Karachi. A one-day game in Hyderahad was abandoned when the pitch was waterlogged and so they reached Rawalpindi, where the second Test starts today, in high dudgeon.

Clive Lloyd, their manager, who took them away from Hyderabad as soon as he discovered that his players would have to sleep three to a room in a rest house, is in no mood to compromise. Faxes

GREG BLEWETT gained the dubious

honour yesterday of being the first

Australian to be out on 99 twice.

spoiling an otherwise dominant bat-

ting display by Australia on the second

day of the third Test in Hobart against

Despite a late flurry of wickets,

Australia were in command at 273 for

five at the close, having added 234 runs

for the loss of five wickets after most of

the first day was lost to rain. Blewett,

who played on to his stumps one short

of what would have been his fifth Test

century, also played on when on 99 last

January in the fourth Test against

New Zealand.

have been flying backwards and forwards all week between the touring party and the Pakistan Cricket Board in an attempt to establish the degree of culpability. It is easy to take sides with

Lloyd. Some of the stories about the Hyderabad experience are almost beyond belief. Players who went into the kitchen found the chef preparing food on the floor. Michael Holding, covering the series for Caribbean television, discovered scorpions trying to invade his botel room and was told: "They're only little ones." What on earth the West

Indians were doing in a place like that is hard to imagine. It is one thing taking the game to parts of the country where international players are rarely seen, but surely nobody

West Indies. He is the seventh player

in Test history to be out twice on 99.

Michael Atherton, the England cap-

tain, is the only other present player to

Matthew Elliott, the left-handed

two wickets for one run in ten

Scoreboards, page 34

have met this fate.

of his prettiest.

Blewett joins unlucky 99ers



Waqar. recall

sound of mind sends touring teams to towns that are not equipped to stage such games, never mind keeping the players in bread and water

All of which means that West Indies go into the final two Tests of this series having had no cricket since their shambolic performance in Peshawar. They have doubts about the fitness of Ambrose and Stuart Williams and will probably prefer another fast bowler, most likely Rose, to Lewis, whose wrist spin looks

The pitch is green in appearance, drier than the rest of a square that has absorbed a lot of rain, and offers the prospect of decent pace. Pakistan, therefore, may go into the match with only one spinner, Mushtaq Ahmed, although Saglain, the off spinner left out of the first Test, is available. He replaces Arshad Khan, who looked out of his depth in Peshawar and was a "local

Wagar Younis, omitted at Peshawar for reasons that were hard to fathom and have not been fully explained, will play and Shoaib Akhtar, a local bowler who toured England earlier this year with the Pakistan A team, will probably make his Test debut. Once again, Pakistan have shown their aptitude for finding and promoting talented young

pick" if ever there was one.

David Lloyd, the England coach, watched the players at practice after arriving here yesterday. On Tuesday, he moves on to Lahore, where England play two one-day matches next week before the forthcoming quadrangular competition in Sharjah, where Pakistan and West Indies will

### Ganguly denied century

SOURAV GANGULY was dismissed one run short of a second successive Test century as India compiled a formidable first-innings total on the third day of the second Test against Sri Lanka in Nagpur.

However, rain prevented any play after lunch and gave Sri Lanka an excellent chance of avoiding defeat. pener, scored his third Test century, although he was dropped twice and will not look back on the innings as one Ganguly, who made 109 in the drawn Ellion's dismissal for 114, when the first Test last week, helped India to score was 238, triggered a collapse, take their overnight score of 401 for with four wickets falling for 28 runs. five to 485 all out. Sri Lanka have yet to start their reply. Simon Doull, the medium-pacer, took

Ganguly was caught at first slip off Ravindra Pushpakumara, the seam

bowler, whose five wickets ensured that India lost their last five batsmen in adding only 23 runs. Ganguly and Kumble took their overnight stand of 98 to 159 before Kumble, who

completed his third Test half-century

in 42 matches, was run out.

Srinath was leg-before to Jayasuriya, the left-arm spinner, and then Chauhan and Ganguly were dismissed in successive balls. Pushpakumara moved one away from Ganguly and Tillekeratne took a smart, low catch. Pushpakumara then had Kuruvilla leg-before to finish with five for 122.

The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, is Tom Whitelaw, of Be

### **GOLF**

### Westwood revels in confidence of youth

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN MELBOURNE

THE Australians were a bit taken aback by Lee Westwood after the second round of the Australian Open at the Metropolitan club in Melbourne yesterday. They knew that he was the European No 3 this season and that he was in prime form, having won twice in the four weeks before the Open, but they were not quite prepared for the selfconfident young man who had a 66, six under par, to be just

one shot off the lead, on 134,

Andrew Coltart, the Scot who won the Australian PGA Championship in Sydney last Sunday, had led, on 11 under par, after four birdies in his first seven holes, but the gusting southwesterly wind reduced him to a guessing game and he dropped six shots in the last ten holes to finish with a 74 and a total of 139, six behind the obligatory Open unknown.

Nick O'Hern. 26, a lefthander from Perth, Western Australia, was out in front, having carried his own bag to a 67 on Thursday and then, with his wife, Alana, in charge of the clubs, added a 66 yesterday. But O'Hern, who uses a 48-inch putter and has made only three cuts (this one included) in his career, has nothing like the experience of Westwood, 24, and they are both aware of the man in third place, on 135, one Greg Norman. He has won the title for the past two years and is also the world No I. Not that it bothers Westwood.

"Sure I can." he answered, when asked if he could win. "I'm in the second-best position out of anybody at the moment, but Greg Norman's still there and you can't take the world No I lightly when he's one shot behind you." In his early days, Westwood

said, he was in awe of some players, including Norman. but that is in the past. "Reputations shouldn't count for anything when you're playing against people," he said. "After a while you learn to believe you are as good as them. I don't think there's any real difference between my game and Greg Norman's, but he's a lot more used to being in contention. He's been out there a lot longer than l

Norman, a venerable 42, recalled how he had taken SO when paired with Jack Nicklaus for the first time, in the Australian Open, as a youngster. "The first time 1 played with Nicklaus. I shot 70," Westwood said. mischievously. That was this year, in the final round at Augusta. but he had made his audience sit up.

### **ATHLETICS**

### Chataway to lead recovery

By JOHN GOODBODY

SIR Christopher Chataway, the former MP and world 5,000 metres record-holder, is to head a steering group to plan the future of British athletics, whose governing body is in administration with a deficit of £530,000.

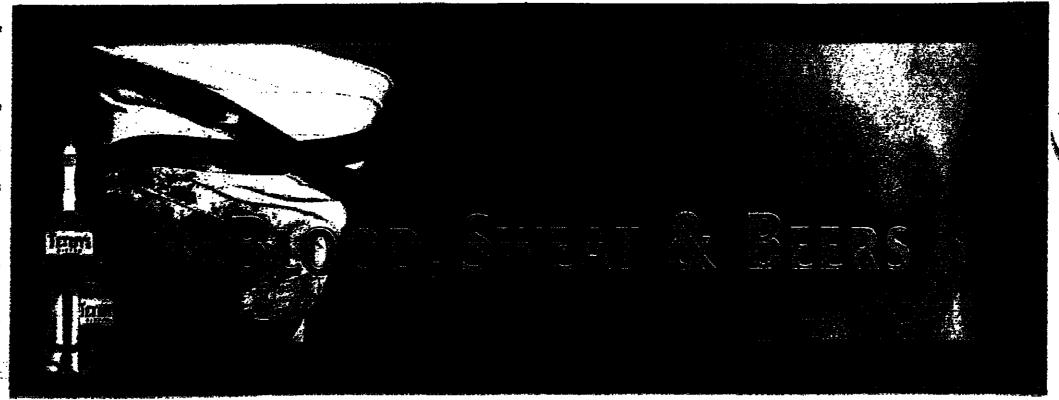
In the meantime, £300,000 of taxpayers' money will be used to fund a new company, UK Athletics 98, which will provide interim organisation. Also on the steering group is

David Moorcroft, the former chief executive officer of the British Athletic Federation. and Sir Paul Fox, the former managing director of BBC network television. A leading promotional com-

pany, such as the International Management Group or Alan Pascoe Associates, may well take over the commercial side of the sport, such as the running of international meetings. Moorcroft said yesterday that there were "better agencies" at delivering some areas of the sport than the national

governing body.

Moorcroft added that many now accepted that a national registration scheme for all athletes was likely. This exists in other Olympic sports, such as swimming, rowing, judo and weightlifting and is fundamental towards the funding of those sports.





Fross has taken charge of Tottenham Hotspur, the cry

goes up that he will, and should, jettison David

Tottenham training and

running harder. It takes

England's historic 6-3

defeat by Hungary at

one back to the aftermath of

Wembley, 44 years ago, when Watford, then a third

division club, promptly

their players would be

welcomes the arrival of

Continental coaches in

has long recommended.

this country, something one

Ruud Gullit has given new

Arsène Wenger is at least an

life and allure to Chelsea.

interesting figure at

Arsenal, though his

training twice a day! In principle, one

announced that in future,

Ginola.

symptomatic that almost as soon

of AS Monaco before he

Much nonsense has

Sugar, about Gerry Francis having somehow

gone on trying to grind

went off to make money in

been talked, not least by Alan

"betrayed" his principles, implying that he should have

out results rather than go for exciting football in the

grand Tottenham tradition.

Harmer-Hoddle-Gascoigne

succession to make things

Against Crystal Palace last Monday night Ginola supplied the want by

left wing. If gaps were

moving into the middle of the

thus left there, why did other players not fill them?

Ginola showed outstanding

and was behind almost every

skills, used the ball well,

decent Spurs attack. If he

happen in midfield.

### **FOOTBALL SATURDAY**

### Far too skilful to be trusted

disciplinary tolerance and his transfer policy remain unconvincing.

Symptomatic of the Danny Bergara, the deep distrust that English Uruguayan, beavering in the football traditionally has lower reaches of the for the unorthodox player. League, has had his whether it be Charlie moments. Overall, Buchan, Len Shackleton or those other Spurs stars, Glenn Hoddle and Paul however, there has been scant reciprocity between Britain and the world at Gascoigne. large. British coaches Sad, too. the initially went out to teach and concomitant emphasis that Gross will have preach the game. Even today, the demand for them

abroad is quite startling. Scarcely had Graeme Souness been run out on a rail from Torino, of Italy's Serie B, then he had been made manager of famous, if impoverished, Benfica. Scarcely had Gerry Francis left Spurs than the other big Lisbon club. Sporting, were knocking at his door.

As against that, Jozef Venglos, the likeable and able Slovakian, failed as a manager at Villa Park despite one hallucinatory home success against Internazionale. He never really got to grips with his



Ivan Golac, a right back for Yugoslavia and Southampton, made a bright beginning in charge of Dundee United, even winning the Scottish Cup against Rangers, but thereafter it was all downhill. Oscar Arce, the much



Ginola in action on Monday night. Most of Tottenham's best attacks stemmed from him

travelled Argentine, had limited success as coach at Sunderland and Sheffield United, but did good work with Millwall's juniors. Part of the trouble, clearly, is that the role of the manager abroad is so

different from here, where he

is expected to be a Protean figure, a wheeler-dealer as well as a coach. Can Gross succeed? One hopes so, though the odds are against him and the

is a strange one. Not

appointment, on the face of it,

because one has anything but

respect for Swiss football, whose qualities tend to be underrated. that Gross's appointment eems to have been made

Which is where Ginola comes in. What Francis so long needed, and notably failed to find, was an "inside forward" in the White-

Doubts reside in the fact in some panic, involving a manager who, however able, hardly arrives trailing

only goal of the game to Edworthy, should not Clements, running with the full back, have caught I declare an interest. I have followed Ginola's by contrast, was very much a known quantity, for seven years the successful manager

mercurial career since watching his dazzling displays in the Toulon under-21 tournament nine years ago, when he was an inside forward rather than a right-footed left winger.

lost the ball before the

mand:
dedica
oball r

terton fans ve

evin Keegan, another believer, thinks Ginola was traumatised when sent off two seasons ago against Arsenal. More probably, it was when he was blamed for giving the ball away near the end of the France Bulgaria World Cup game in Paris. costing a goal by Kostadinov, defeat and elimination from the 1994 finals.

Am I in an informed minority? Note, pray, that after Monday's game, Ginola was warmly praised by Steve Coppell, Palace's manager, despite his "shortcomings". It was Disraeli who said that "the defects of great men are the consolation of dunces".

Leboeuf's view, page 39

### A miracle on Merseyside

Mark Hodkinson experiences

mixed emotions while travelling to Anfield on Barnsley's magic bus

The ball is in the net (apparently), and my new best friend has me in an aggressively affectionate headlock. He is screaming yelling - shouting down my ear. When my brother grim finally lets go, I have to stay on my feet and volunteer an extra syllable to Barnsley as we cheer "Barns-a-lee" to the afternoon sky.

I am not a Barnsley support-

er (1 am not even from Yorkshire), yet here I am at Anfield, the only impartial observer among 3,000 devotees in the away end. As experi-ences go, this is strictly exiles, like passing a church and suddenly finding yourself at a wedding ceremony among strangers, and strange strangers

at that. The day begins at Oakwell, a fog drifting across the club car park. We all have neatly printed coach

tickets and neatly packed lunches. Barnsley, at the foot of the table, have lost their past five away games and conceded 40 goals already this season. Understandably, no one mentions football as the coach picks its way through the mist towards Liverpool. The man behind me, however, mentions crisps a lot. He has a two-year-old grandson and has found a sure-fire way of making baby-sitting easy. "Crisps, I just feed him crisps." he explains. "How many does that give him?," asks his friend. "Oh,

about four packets.' The coach parks alongside Stanley Park at the ludicrously early time of 1.30pm — this day is going to be long. I look at my match ticket and start to worry: Row I, Seat 36, and, just to confirm that I have

got the seat from hell, stamped across it is means get set to get wet. Now, I'm actually very lucky to have the ticket. Barnsley is a club loyal to its principles, and, initially, only season ticket holders were were allowed to buy one.

They'd lynch me if I sold one

to a reporter," revealed a member of staff. Row I, Seat 36, in the Lower Anfield Road End is as appalling as it sounds. To create Row I, Seat 36 in your own living room, you must switch on Match of the Day and lie down flat on your stomach about six inches from the television. Place a fruit bowl between you and the screen — at Anfield, this is a photographer and his equipment and, just in case there remains a modicum of enjoyment from your mole's eye view, ask

various members of your fam-

ily to push past wearing fluorescent jackets in the man-ner of club stewards.

The supporters sharing my mole hole all appear to be disconcertingly above average height and weight, not to mention volume and intoxication. On either side, sit two blokes the size of telephone boxes. When they both stand up, which is every ten seconds, I have no choice but to rise with them. The one on my left is middle-aged, and, it seems, fairly peaceable. Abruptly, he

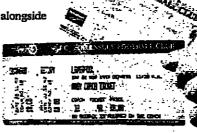
asks a steward to move out of the way. "You couldn't organise a piss-up in a brewery, yer Scouse bastard." he yells as an

If football has gone effete, no has told Barnsley. Everyone Mums, dads. lads, they all scream themselves hoarse, and the look in their eyes is intense: it betrays a raw. bloody-

minded passion for their team,

their town, their family, their mates. They sing as if their lives depend on it, and I do too. Out on the pitch. Barnsley are hardly in the game, but, on a break, the ball appears to find its way into Liverpool's net. Here comes my head lock, and, for a horrible second, my

neighbour is squeezing me violently, pressing his face close to mine. In this melée of hostile pleasure. I have never



Passport to Anfield: sought-after tickets

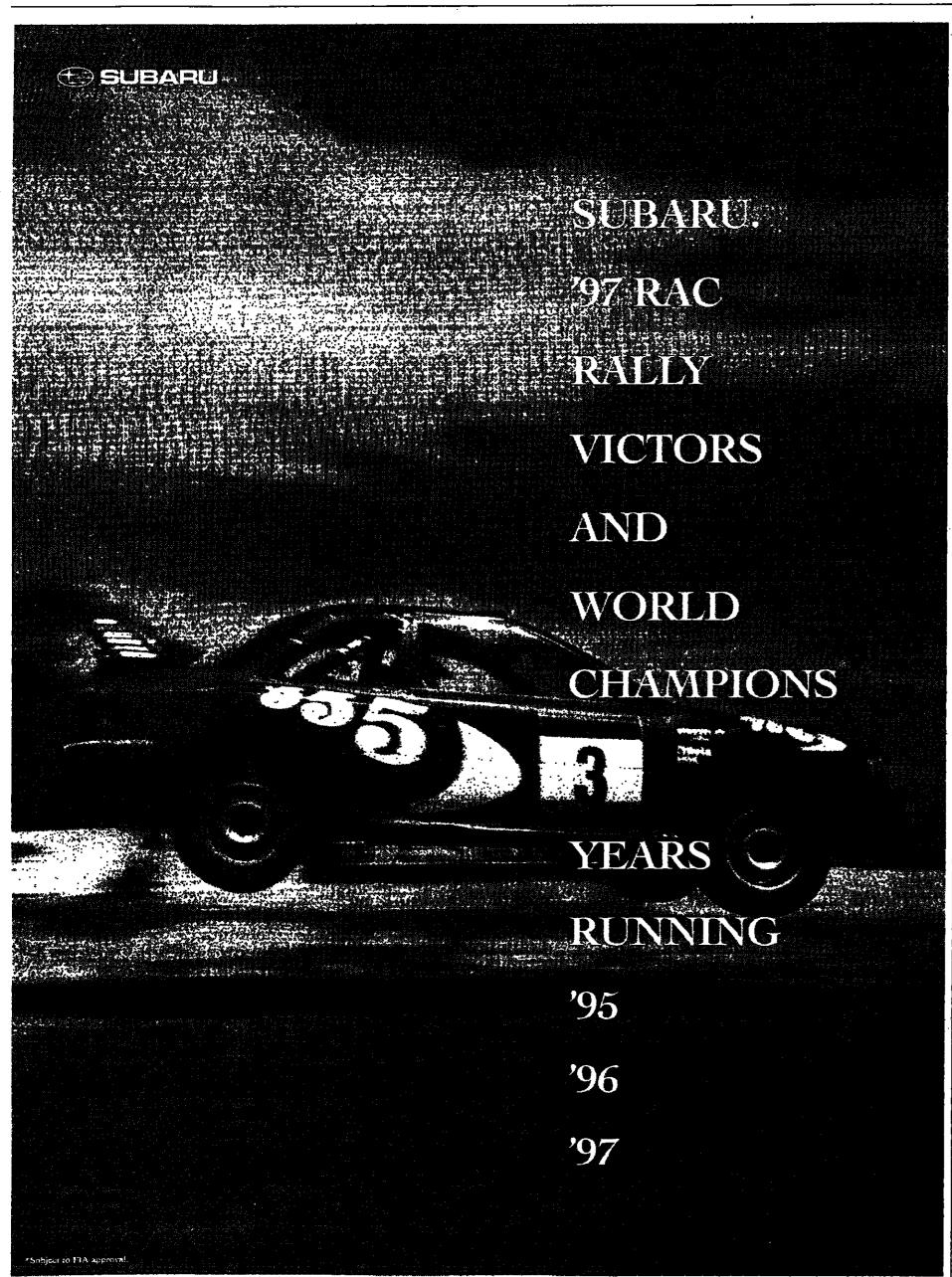
felt so lonely, never missed my own team and my own kind so much. No one in the stalls has any

idea who has scored, since the goal went in at the Kop End. which is only visible with the aid of a tripod and a pair of binoculars. Somehow, Barnsley hold

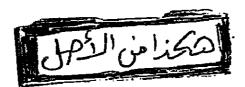
out and the goal celebrations are repeated at the end of the match. They are given extra seasoning as the supporters around me goad the stewards and police into a few minor

Back on the coach, we are made to wait an hour before setting off, and it takes almost a further hour to negotiate the traffic congestion in Liverpool. It is still foggy in Barnsley when we arrive just before

Saturday night out. "Was it a good march?," they shout. "Yeah." I reply instinctively. The truth is, I don't know.



Colin McRae and Nicky Grist storm to victory in the RAC Rally and Subaru take their third World Manufacturers' Title. Continuing proof that for consistent performance, build quality and reliability, nothing beats a Subaru. Call 0990 100568. A couple are just leaving their house, dressed up for a



#### **FOOTBALL SATURDAY**

# Art and soul of dedicated football man

He may have a teen idol's looks and a pop star girlfriend, but the real Jamie Redknapp is

focused on the welfare of Liverpool and England

The giant metal doors swung open and the gatekeeper appeared. Lugubrious and suspicious, the guardian of the Liverpool training ground seemed puzzled that anyone wanted to invade his territory on the players' day off. Then the question brought a smile to his face. "Jamie?" he said, halfturning. "He's out there on his

Out there on the great expanse of green in the midst of the Merseyside suburbs, Jamie Redknapp was lost in his own private world, a solitary figure consumed by his art. A woolly hat pulled down over his ears, he prac-tised and he practised until the sweat was dripping from him. He could have been any parks player pursuing the dream of perpetual improvement.

1 miracle or

Mersevside

Occasionally, for a bit of light relief, he worked on some tricks, mainly an exotic turn effected by jumping on top of the ball and dragging it round to one side with the top of the foot in one eye-blinking

For the most part, though, it was hard labour, working on his weaker left foot, crashing shot after shot against the wooden practice walls away on the far side of the pitch. He only had one ball to work with: if the shot went high or wide. he trotted off doggedly to

Eventually, he finished. He juggled the ball, not on the top of his foot but on his upturned instep, 30 or 40 times and then, as a finale, he flicked it up with a flourish and volleyed it towards one of the goals. It cannoned against the underside of the crossbar and strode back to the clubhouse.

And the rest of his day off? He drove to a city-centre restaurant, had a bowl of pasta and talked about football, about Terry Venables and Glenn Hoddle, the England managers he has played under, and about the plight of Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, and his respect for the man who is coming under increasing pressure at Goodison Park.

When he got back to his





brick ceiling and its view of the cathedral spires, he went straight to the television to look at the headlines on teletext and read the top story about David Burrows rejoining Ron Atkinson at Sheffield

In the evening, he spoke to his father, Harry Redknapp, the manager of West Ham United, about football and net. The session over, he Champions' League game against FC Kosice.

The point is not that Redknapp is a one-dimensional man. If anything, the opposite is true. Young, with a face that launched a thousand teenmagazine cover stories and shot him to the top of countless polls on the sexiest footballers, he has remained refreshingly unaffected by his fame, considerate to his fans, unflinchingly loyal to his family and his girlfriend, the pop star, Louise, and amusing, unassuming

lunchtime company. The point is that Redknapp cares about football and most of all that he cares about Liverpool and about his own performance. It should not have to be made, especially about someone like him who oozes conscientiousness and

But when things go wrong at Liverpool, the critics dust off the Spice Boys headlines, lump him in with Steve McManaman, Robbie Fowler and Jason McAteer - who were all, incidentally, at the training ground on their day off, too — and accuse them of leaving their passion for the club on the dance floor or the catwalk. It is a convenient line that has long since lost all relevance, but it is so much easier to criticise them than a nice man such as Roy Evans.

Their I-O defeat at home to Barnsley last Saturday, the biggest FA Carling Premiership shock of the season, unleashed another tide of criticism, more talk of an Anfield crisis and, most of all, the allegation that the supposed arrogance and nonchalance of some of the players amounts to a betrayal of their manager. Alan Hansen, their former central defender, became the nists to savage the team and as upset about it after the

opportunity to ram those comments back down the throats of their critics when they take on Arsenal at Highbury tomorrow in one of the day's two mouth-watering matches. Next Saturday, they play United at Anfield. Good results in both games and they will be right back in the championship reckoning. If that happens, maybe then thing we can.

people will start to believe that they care. "It amazes me really that people still seem to think that we can lose and somehow not be affected by it." Redknapp said. "We probably haven't helped ourselves in the past but I don't know what people expect or what people want from you. We have got beaten against Barnsley but we worked hard and it just did not happen for us on the day. You

the players. Redknapp and

Liverpool have the perfect

to all teams. question the commitment of game. I am usually quite you get beat, it is awful.

do have those days. It happens

relaxed, quite laid-back about things in general but some of the fans were having a little go when we were coming off and I lost my head and had a go back and that is unlike me. But it hurt. It was not really meant as anything but I was upset and I saw sombody shouting and hollering and 1 had a go back. I do not know what people want because in terms of effort we give every-

mean, we hate losing. I know we have got this reputation but it is the biggest load of rubbish ever. When we lose, it knocks me for six. I bring it home with me. It upsets my whole week. My whole week revolves around how we get on. Some people say they can't believe affects the whole tone of training, the whole mood around the club. If you win on Saturday, you can't wait to go body will be buzzing but when

have got, people see that and they cannot believe how easily "We are all in it together we have thrown it away in the past. I have to hold my hands up because we have done. Last year we were so near but yet so far. We ended up finishing

Liverpool. 'We do get things thrown at us but I do think people are too quick to jump on our backs but that will never change until we go and win the league and prove to people that we care. It hurts, but I feel like I have said

fourth, which was a joke

because at worst we should

have been second and even

that is not good enough for

Jamie Redknapp's frequent conversations with his father, Harry, are dominated by one topic - their mutual love of the game

that until I am blue in the face. "As long as I know myself that I am doing everything l can to make me a better player and work hard on a Saturday, then that is all that matters. The people that say all these things, they don't know me and they don't know the other lads. They just think they may be a hint of jealousy with some of the people who say those things. I honestly believe that we are not far away from getting it right.

with the gaffer and the rest of the staff. We missed Paul Ince and Robbie against Barnsley. Being the genius that he is, Robbie always gets on the end of things in games like that. We are not far away from United really, but if we get one bad result then suddenly it's all gloom and doom and people saying we are rubbish

Redknapp, who is personable and as down to earth as his father, has been at Anfield for almost seven years now after Kenny Dalglish signed him from Bournemouth for £350,000 when he was 17. Gradually, he has matured into one of the best passers of the ball in the Premiership, a fact acknowledged by Hoddle. who has made no secret of his desire to use him in the role of sweeper because of his ability

He has been capped eight times for his country, including the game against Scotland in the European championship that he transformed when Venables introduced him as a substitute. An injury later in that game and another last summer at Old Trafford in the international against South Africa have restricted his England appearances, but he i fully fit again now and back near the top of his form. Earlier this month, Hoddle invited him to train with the England squad, something commonly seen as a precursor to a full recall and a chance to stake his claim for a place in

the World Cup squad of 22. Maybe then, if it has not happened already, people will rush to accept the reality that he is the genuine article. "Football is my life," he said. "It always has been. I speak to my Dad every day, maybe twice a day, without fail and 99.9 per cent of the conversation is about football. Some people might think that's shallife and nothing else interests me. That is the way it is."

# Everton fans vent fury at Johnson

AT THE Everton training ground yesterday, a handful of schoolchildren and a distinctly bored-looking mongrel constituted the sum total of interest in the club that lies bottom of the FA Carling Premiership. How different it will be this afternoon.

Merseyside Police have been given a warning that thousands of Everton supporters are planning a mass demonstration after the match at Goodison Park with Tottenham Hotspur. Hundreds of officers have been drafted in and a cordon of stewards will be thrown around the ground.

The target for what will undoubtedly be a torrent of abuse, should Everton lose, is Peter Johnson, the Everton chairman. The supporters are angry that he has failed to put any money into the club, bar his original investment when purchasing control from Lady Granchester, of the Moores family.

More than 20,000 leaflets will be distributed before the game, urging supporters to protest against Johnson's reign. The text will demand that Johnson "get out his chequebook, or

It is against this grim backdrop that Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, must prepare his side for a game that already looks significant in the

struggle to avoid relegation from the Premiership. Everton's tenure in the top division has continued uninterrupted for 43 years and, despite the fears of supporters, the manager remains confident that the run will not be broken this season. "I can understand the frustration of the fans but we

have no doubts and we are not even thinking about relegation," he said. We are in a difficult position, but we have played three away games, two against teams in the top three in the country, and there has been little to

choose between us." Whilst much morbid interest will be



Kendall, centre, is facing growing unrest among Everton supporters

centred on Goodison Park this after noon, Blackburn Rovers' visit to Old Trafford tomorrow has captured the imagination of the football-viewing

public.

According to Roy Hodgson, the Blackburn manager, it is a chance for his squad not only to prove their championship credentials, but to settle a few old scores in the process.

There are players here who won the title three seasons ago who deserve far more credit for their role in that incredible success than they have received," he said. "They have been branded one season wonders and. more hurtfully, a one-man team. Well, now that man [Alan Shearer] has gone, it is their chance to show it is rubbish.

Hodgson continued the regeneration of Blackburn yesterday by securing Chris Sutton, his top goalscorer, on a new five-year contract that will take his wages to £20,000 a week.

Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, received some bad news yesterday when he learnt that his club will be refused a work permit for Brad Friedel the United States international goal keeper. Friedel has not played enough matches for his country to justify clearance by the Department for Education and Employment

#### Gullit goes to school with three Dutch masters

**EXPECT Total Football from** Chelsea today. Nothing else will do after Ruud Gullit played host at the club's training ground this week to one of the greatest think-tanks that can ever have been assembled, opening the doors to three legends of the Holland team, Frank Rijkaard, Ronald Koeman and Johann Neeskens.

That awesomely talented trio have joined their compatriot in pursuit of a coaching certificate from the Dutch Football Association and they have been sitting their latest test under the watchful eye of assessors, and dumbstruck fans, at Stamford Bridge this

week.
"The three of them were at the Everton game and we came in the next day from 9am to 6pm to discuss the good points. weaknesses, sol-utions. everything," Gullit, who was even filmed during his press conference yesterday

By MATT DICKINSON by the eagle-eyed observers.

"I want to get the Dutch badge because I know I still have much to learn about this

iob. I fell into it and until now have been getting by on "The Dutch badge is very highly regarded across the world. It means you can work anywhere you want. The great thing about it is that it

allows everyone to have their opinions on how to play the "It is about finding solutions to different problems. From what I understand, to get the badge in England you

have to play in a certain way." Cheisea supporters are understandably anxious that Gullit's pursuit of further education will pave the way for him to move abroad, if not to his former club, AC Milan, who are going through up-

Robson resists Shevchenko chase

manager of the national team. Koeman, now assistant to the international team along with Neeskens, did little to end that speculation when he said: "Ruud taking the certificate would mean he could coach the national team and it is certainly a possibility. He is

heaval, then to Holland as

a great name around the world already but even he would admit he can learn more about the game. That is why we all take this badge." Gullit entphasised, however, that he could not be more content and claimed that there was no rush to sign

a new contract at Stamford Bridge, even though his runs out next year. "I am fully dedicated to working at Chelsea." he said. "The opportunity came up to take the qualification and it is good for the club as well that I do it." Gullit is being offered a

new three-year contract by

second division club, have revealed that Brian Flynn, the

manager, and other members of staff will share bonuses of

almost £120,000 this year.

Pryce Griffiths, the Wrexham

chairman, told the club's an-

nual meeting that it was the first time the incentive

scheme, introduced four years

ago, had produced such a

healthy figure because Wrex-

ham made a pre-tax profit of £480,000 last season.

Fulham, apparently wal-lowing in the financial lar-

gesse of Mohamed Al Fayed, the Craven Cottage benefac-tor, will not be able to field se of Mohamed Al Fayed.

their latest signings — Alan Neilson, Paul Trollope and

Steve McAnespie - against

Preston North End at Deep-

### Penalties that go on and on and ...

LOVE 'em or hate 'em, penalty shoot-outs play an increasingly decisive role in the congested fixture lists of modern-day football. Sometimes, they are concluded in a trice; sometimes, they go on for ever — as the youngsters of Bristol Rovers and Swindon Town will testify. In their first-round replay in The Times FA Youth Cup on Thursday, which had ended in a 0-0 draw after extra time, Rovers eventually went through 10-9 on penalties. It rook 24 attempts to achieve the

However, it is not a record. In the first qualifying round of the FA Cup this season, after two 2-2 draws, Marlow defeated Littlehampton 11-10 on spot kicks when Mark Howells, the Littlehampton goalkeeper. shot wide - the first miss after 21 successes. It equalled Aldershot's 11-10 triumph against Fulham, in the Freight Rover Trophy in 1987, and North Korea's 11-10 win against Hong Kong, in the Asian Cup in 1975, but was still some way short of the world best. In Argentina in 1988, Argentinos Juniors beat Racing Club

#### Taking flight

Yeavil Town supporters and club officials have decided to let the plane take the strain when they make the long trek to Gateshead for a Vauxhall Conference fixture this afternoon. They have chartered a flight to carry their 104-strong party from Bournemouth to Newcastle, travelling in relative comfort and arriving in good time for kick-off. No such jet-setting for the Yeovil players: they travelled by coach.

Something fishy Bucharest's 22-storey Inter-



view over the Romanian capi tal, as several members of the Aston Villa party discovered when they stayed there before Villa's Uefa Cup third-round tie against Steaua Bucharest on Tuesday.

Had the mist not been so persistent, they could have seen even farther and perhaps caught a glimpse of the magnificent palace built by Nicolae Ceausescu, the former Romanian dictator. The hotel's rooftop restaurant Continental Hotel offers a fine offers fine food, too, especially

sturgeon, in many guises, and 2ander. However, few diners were tempted to sample the grilled carp, just in case. On the menu, the middle two letters of the fish had been printed the wrong way

#### Name of the day

Trabzonspor, of Turkey, have released two players after a series of poor league performances. Davor Vugrinec, the Croatian forward, has been unable to find a new club, but, somewhat strangely, his for-mer team-mate has. Excelsior Mouseron, of Belgium, have opened talks with the glorious-ly named striker from Cameroon, Jean-Jacques Misse

STRANGE BUT TRUE: London has more professional football clubs than any city excent Buenos Aires.

#### ANDREI SHEVCHENKO.

the Ukraine and Dynamo Kiev striker, is one of the most sought-after players in the world. His displays in the European Cup Champions' League, in which he has scored five goals in five matches, have attracted several wealthy suitors, Manchester United and Newcastle United

Middlesbrough, though, have dropped out of the race. Bryan Robson, the manager. has watched Shevchenko play and has the funds readily available for the ridiculous, yet predictable, £12 million asking price, his disposal of players last summer having

realised £21 million. Robson, though, is not interested: Shevchenko is not his type. "He's too similar to the players who are already here," Viv Anderson, Robson's assis-



tant, said yesterday. "He is a name on our list and we've watched him. Bryan has gone to see him play, but we won't be following it up now."
Instead, Middlesbrough
have re-signed Jaime Moreno.

their former Bolivian striker, on loan until Christmas. He scored 20 goals in 26 games for DC United in the United States and could move permanently to the Riverside Stadium in the new year. He is unlikely to feature in Middlesbrough's home game against West Bromwich Albion in the Nationwide League first division this afternoon.

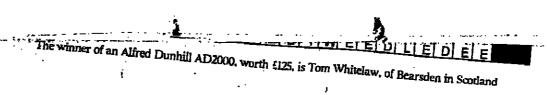
At the opposite end of the financial spectrum, Oxford United yesterday sold Bobby Ford, 23, their midfield player, to Sheffield United for E400,000, giving Oxford a ray of hope as they attempt to sort out debts of £10 million and losses of £800,000 a season. What we have got to look at

is the club going on." Denis Smith, the Oxford manager. said. "The club is far more important than any one individual. Bobby moving has kept the club going. He has gone to a bigger club. Whether they are a better club, I don't know, but they are going for promotion and we wish him

This transfer makes life a lot easier for us all. We can get paid, which is a nice way to live your life when you are working." Ford made 115 League appearances for Oxford, scoring seven goals.

The registrations of the trio. who moved for a combined fee of almost 22 million, were received too late by the Foot-In contrast. Wrexham, the hali League vesterday.

dale today.



### I VIII 135

#### **FOOTBALL SATURDAY**





MANCHESTER UNITED **BLACKBURN ROVERS** Tomorrow, 3.0 (sold out)



Oliver Holt Hodgson, Blackburn Roy Rovers manager was a watching admirer at Old Trafford last Thursday, when

Manchester United eased through to the quarter-finals of the Champions' League. Yesterday, as the slanting rain beat against the windows of the Blackburn training headquarters, near Clitheroe, he was busy finalising plans to dethrone

Buoyed by the news that Chris Sutton, the team's leading striker, has signed a contract to stay at the club until 2003, Hodgson was generous in his praise of Alex Ferguson, the United manager, but optimistic that Blackburn could beat their Lancashire rivals in Manchester tomorrow and leap over them to the top of the FA Carling Premiership.

Hodgson will be without Colin Hendry, the stalwart central defender, who trudged out of training yesterday. but Rovers have maintained their earlyseason form, confounding those who said that their challenge would lade when injuries began

"United are a marvellous team," Hodgson said. "A lot of the younger ones have come up

through the ranks together. But I still believe we can beat them."

Against FC Kosice, a strolling United looked as if they were playing well within themselves. preserving some of their energies for the match tomorrow, one of the dozen or so in the Premiership for which they know they must be at their best. It could have a bearing on the destination of the title.

United will be deprived of Paul Scholes, their most influential and inspired player in recent games. Scholes ran the game for them against Kosice and his verve, his vision and his precise passing are bound to be missed, even by a club with such vast resources.

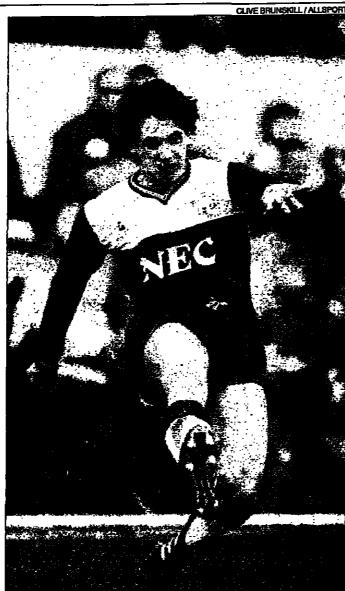
Ferguson has played Ronnie Johnsen in recent games so that he would be ready to replace Scholes when the suspension bit. Johnsen took the stage in central defence last Thursday, but he is likely to be pushed into central midfield alongside Nicky Butt tomorrow with Henning Berg regaining his place next to Gary

United are on fire at the moment, oozing with confidence and unshakeable self-belief that has been boosted even further by their Champions' League

The last time they played a club one place below them, Arsenal, they lost. This time, it would be foolish to bet against them, although the absence of Scholes may cost them victory.

MANCHESTER UNITEO (probable; 4-4-2): P Schmeichel — G. Neville, H. Berg, G. Pallister, P. Neville — D. Beckham, H. Johnsen, N. Butt, R. Gegs — E. Sheringham, A. Cole BLACKBURN ROVERS (probable; 4-4-2): T. Flowers — P. Valery, S. Henchoz, C. Coleman, J. Kenna — S. Ripely, T. Sharwood, G. Piltcroft, W. McKnilay — C. Sutton, K. Gallacher Referes: A. Wilkee

■ TELEVISION: Tomorrow: Highlights on Sky Sports, 12.30am. PREDICTION: Blackburn to hait United's rampage







Everton v Spurs at Goodison Park today brings together two once undisputed members of the Big Five who have fallan on hard times. Here are some reminders that nobody is Immune from the dreaded words: "They used to be a big club, you know."

 Wanderers
 2. Queen's Park Ten Scottish Cups in 20 years

before the turn of the century 3. Preston North End
"Proud" won the first two Football
League championships. Oh, and Tom
Finney played for them as well

4. Huddersfield Town The first team to complete a championship hat-trick under Herbert Chap-man. Sadly not as successful after he man, Sadly not a left for Highbury

5. Blackpool Matthews, Mortensen in 1953 . . the tower and sticks of rock now

6. Sunderland Almost did the Double in 1913 as one of six championships, reliant on Bob Stokoe's hat for highlights since

7. Wolves Three titles in the 1950s, just Bull these

days 8. Portsmouth Successive championships after the war — sunk without trace now

Burnley
 Vintage claret in the 50s and 60s. Vin
 Ordinaire these days

10. Manchester City
Four trophies in three seasons with a
centre forward called Lee. Wonder what happened to him? 11. Liverpool. Only joking, lads

Compiled by Richard Whitehead



Keith Pike A rare shaft of light in a season gloom or a platform which to build an unlikely escape

route? Most probably the former, but Barnsley's victory over Liverpool last week has instilled hope where little appeared to exist.

Has Danny Wilson, the manager, stumbled upon the secret of eternal FA Carling Premiership life? The truth is less fanciful. "We didn't want to get hammered any more." Neil Redfearn, their midfield player, explained yesterday. "Now it is all about the next game."

Victory over Leeds United today could lift Barnsley out of the







BARNSLEY LEEDS UNITED Today, 3.0 (sold out)

bottom three. With Kewell unavailable and Hopkin suspended, this may not be a bad time to be playing their Yorkshire rivals and a sell-out crowd at Oakwell will be willing them on. If public sympathy counts for anything, they should prosper.

Everyone loves an underdog. but even more so when they possess the type of honesty that Andy Liddell displayed at An-field.

His refusal to go to ground under James's illegal challenge was rewarded instantly when his cross set up Ward's winner, and may prove to be one of the most significant - as well as praiseworthy - moments of the season.

BARNSLEY (possible: 4-4-2) L Leese — N Eaden, A de Zeeuw, P Marksjadt, D Barnard — M Bullock, E Tinider, N Redisam, A Moess — A Loddel, A Ward Joces, A Ward LEDS UnitED (possible, 4-4-2). N Martyn — G Halle, D Wetherall, L Radabe, D Robertson — G Halley, L Bowyer, A I Haaland, 9 Rabero — J F Hasselbank, R Walface

■ TELEVISION: Today: Match of the Day, goal highlights,

PREDICTION: Barnsley revival to continue with a point.



Matt Dickinson Chelsea jointtop of the league for the first time since 1978? Ruud

Gullit, the aware of the statistic, or even the possibility, yesterday. He was, however, less than happy that Chelsea's FA Carling Premiership midweek win over Everton had been described as fortunate. "If we do not play so good and win. everyone says we are lucky," the Durchman said. "If Manchester United do it, evervone calls them clever. Luck does not come just by sitting on your chair and waiting to

CHELSEA

DERBY COUNTY

Today, 3.0 (sold out)

win the lottery. You have to work hard for it." Chelsea almost certainly will have to do so today against Jim Smith's Derby County side, sixth in the Premiership and likely to be bolstered by the return of Igor Stimac, the captain, and Rob-

m van der Laan from injury. For Chelsea, Steve Clarke may be absent with a calf injury, but Frank Leboeuf is expected to have recovered from a groin problem. The Chelsea back four will have to be at their most watchful against a side who have scored six goals in their past two Premiership games, with Paulo Wanchope probably the

centre of attention. Gullit was in dismissive mood when it came to the Costa Rican. "You see players that have moments in a season when everything is going well for them," he said. "You can only really judge over the

whole campaign."

Much the same can be said of Chelsea, even if they do draw level with Manchester United today. Not that Gullit seemed bothered. "It is still too early for us. For me it is not important whether we are in first or third place. I just want to be in the top five for the next few months. That is when it gets really important."

CHELSEA (probable: 4-4-2): E de Goey — B Lantourde, F Loboeuf, M Duberry, C Bubayaro — D Petrescu. R Dr Marteo, D Wise. J Morris — M Hughes, G Zob. DERBY COUNTY (4-3-3): M Poom — C Powell, Istmac, Fivan der Laan, C Daily — M Soits, S Erano, D Powell — P Warchope, F Beano, D Sturndge. P Duston

TELEVISION: Today: Match of the Day, BBC1 10.50pm, extended highlights. ■ PREDICTION: Chelsea to win by the odd goal

ON MONDAY Brilliant insights or hopeless guesses? Check our writers'

predictions against their

weekend match reports



A lost cat recently came home on Mersevside ( after going missing for years seven and keeled over and died.

David Maddock

One suspects that a similar, albeit metaphorical, fate awaits Howard Kendall, the Everton manager. Bottom of the table, barely a bean for new players and a squad so demoralised - he should never have gone back.

A real sense of pessimism has settled over Everton this season. Desperate supporters are preparing a justice campaign, with T-shirts bearing the plea: "Free." the Goodison 30,000". Maybe some should read: "Slaven Bilic is innocent". Sent off again in



**EVERTON** TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR Today, 3.0

midweek, this most important of players in the fight for FA Carling Premiership survival will serve his second ban within the space of a month.

Tottenham Hotspur have similar problems and one suspects that they will not be eased by the

arrival of Christian Gross as manager. Some of the players at White Hart Lane are unlikely to take kindly to being told they are unfit, both physically and spiritually.

Expect a few of the more saleable ones to jump ship during the next few months, with David Ginola and Sol Campbell leading the charge.

M Wrard, D Williamson, G Speed — D Ferguson, D Cadamatrai. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (probable; 4-4-2): I Walker — S Cerr. R Vege, S Campbell, A Sinton — D Anderton, S Clemanoe, A Neisen, D Graola — L Ferdinand, S Iversen.

PREDICTION: Possibly the most nervous draw in the history of



Hodkinson

The unlikely refrain of Molly Malone could well ring out across the Reebok Stadium today as Bolton Wanderers supporters

bait their FA Carling Premiership visitors. Dublin might be a fair city where the girls are so pretty, but the Wimbledon fans prefer Merton, South London. Dean Holdsworth, the sage

that he is, has already checked out of his hotel. The former Wimbledon player has heard that a coachload of nefarious jokers armed with eggs, scissors and ghetto-blasters plan to meet him. When the two teams met in the Coca-Cola Cup earlier this sea-





**BOLTON WANDERERS** 

Alan Kimble has recovered from a hamstring injury and

COVENTRY CITY

LEICESTER CITY

Today, 3.0

this Midlands shindig, especially

as Leicester have gone off the boil

since attaining a nosebleeding

third place in the Premiership

two months ago. Martin O'Neill's

scrappers have won only once in

six league outings and need to

rediscover the early-season spirit

WIMBLEDON Today, 3.0

this time."

son, the Wimbledon squad pelted Holdsworth's car with eggs. "It was a strange experience." he mumbled nervously. "I've heard they are going to take my clothes

Robbie Earle is back from international duty with Jamaica. Bol-ton have Sellars in their squad after his three-match suspension.

Players are leaving the Reebok at some rate. After John McGinlay's defection to Bradford City. Steve McAnespie has joined Fulham for £100,000 and Simon Coleman looks sure to join Carlisle United. Peter Beardsley, who played in the reserves this week, is reportedly unsettled.

BOLTON WANDERERS (probable: 4-4-2) K
Branagan — G Bergsson, A Todd, M Fish, M
Whitlow — J Policok, A Thompson, P Frandsen,
M Johansen — D Holdsworth, N Blake,
Wildel, EDON (probable, 4-4-2) N Suffixen — K
Curmangham, D Blackwell, C Perry, B Thatcher
— M Hughes, N Ardley, R Earle, V Jones — C
Corl, M Gayle
Referee; J Winter.

■ TELEVISION: Today: Match of the Day, goal highlights.

PREDICTION: Low-scoring draw.

that produced victories against

Aston Villa and Liverpool and

draws with Manchester United and Arsenal. Coventry have won only once in nine outings and are perhaps drifting towards another end-ofterm doglight. Neil Lennon almost moved to Highfield Road from Crewe Alexandra for a fee of £750,000 two years ago but, wisely, chose Fübert Street instead. "I've no regrets," he said.

COVENTRY CITY (probable, 44-2): S Ogrizovic

— R Nilsson, R Shaw, G Breen, D Burrows — P
Telter, G McAlfister, P Williams, M Hall — D
Huckesty, D Dualen
LEICESTER CITY (probable; 3-5-2), K Keller —
S Prox, M Eliott, S Welsh — P Kaarnark, M Izzel,
N Lennon, S Wisson, S Guppy — S Claridge, I
Marshall

ee: M. Bodenham.

■ TELEVISION: Today: Match of the Day, goal highlights.
■ PREDICTION: Low-scoring draw.

Sooner or later. Palace will have to win at home and a depleted Newcastle could give

CRYSTAL PALACE (probable; 3-5-2) K Millor — A Linighun, P Warhurst. H hiredarson — M Edworthy, S Rodger, A Roberts, C Veart, D Cordon — B Dyer, N Shipportoy, NEWCASTLE UNITED (probable: 4-4-2) S Hislop — A Pistone, S Pearce, P Albert, J Berestred — S Watson, D Barty, R Lee, JD Tomasson — J Barnes, T Ketsbela.

the Day, goal highlights.

PREDICTION: A draw.



Peter Robinson Whoever writes Ron Atkinson's scripts should, in all fairness, make his talents more widely available. As it is, Atkinson

swaggers through life from one high to the next, his troughs overlooked. Take last Saturday, his return to Sheffield Wednesday: a win was obligatory, so Arsenal, wannabe champions, sent some reserves along to make up the chorus line. Who scored the goals? Who cares? There was

only one star of the show. It is a show that now rolls into humbler surroundings and, strangely, a truer test of the job awaiting Atkinson. Southampton may have lost to Chelsea's re-



SOUTHAMPTON

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY

Today, 3.0 (sold out)

serves in the Coca-Cola Cup, but, on their day, they are not a bad side. On an off day, they can be awful, but this is a home game and they are, for once, at full strength, with Ostenstad a likely substitute after recovering from

ankle surgery. He is unlikely to

replace Hirst, who has something of a point to prove to the club that sold him to Southampton for £2 million earlier this season.

Wednesday had hoped to field Burrows, the Coventry City left back, but Pernbridge failed to agree terms to move in the opposite direction so the transfer stalled. Pembridge is thus available today, although Atkinson may prefer Briscoe, who shows

TELEVISION: Today: Match of the Day, goal highlights.

PREDICTION: Home win.

return to the squad. Indeed, on

account of injuries, Brian Little,

now into his fourth year as their

manager, will be selecting his team from a squad of 17 players.

Little will be pleased greatly by news that Southgate, who was



Russell

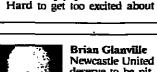
the Coventry left back, could be excused for having a nightmare this afternoon after a fraught few days. On Thursday

Kempson David Burrows.

he was going to Sheffield Wednesday, to be reunited with Ron Atkinson: yesterday, he wasn't. Mark Pembridge, the other 50 per cent of the exchange deal, was unable to agree the personal terms of being sent to Coventry and the deal thus foundered. It could be resurrected next week

but Burrows must forget all

about lucrative signing-on fees for at least 90 more minutes as Leicester City pay a visit.



Brian Glanville Newcastle United deserve to be pitied rather than censured. How can a team hope to compete at top level after losing

主整 Alan Shearer and Faustino Asprilla, two of the game's finest strikers? Today, for the FA Carling

Premiership match against Crys-

tal Palace at Selhurst Park, they

hope to welcome back the influen-tial Rob Lee, who missed the

midweek match in Barcelona

because of a virus, but Darren

Peacock, who hurt an ankle in the Nou Camp, will not play. Palace, as Steve Coppell, their manager, admits, are far less potent at home than away. They





**CRYSTAL PALACE** NEWCASTLE UNITED

seem likely to be without their Italians, Lombardo and Padovano (who hurt his thigh away to Tottenham Hotspur on Monday). but Neil Shipperley and Bruce Dyer are in penetrating form. and the three-man defence is working well, while Kevin Miller,

Today, 3.0 (sold out)

in goal, made an outstanding save at White Hart Lane. On the flanks. Edworthy and Gordon are attacking with pace and zest, while Paul Warhurst has strengthened the

them their chance. If Padovano does not make the cut, they will presumably use two strikers.

Referee: M Ribery ■ TELEVISION: Today: Match of



Carling Premiership match at Upton Park today and have only a short trip back to their families? Perhaps it would be best not to inquire. West Ham, of course, are a



WEST HAM UNITED ASTON VILLA Today, 3.0 (sold out)

particular, has missed, is close to regaining full fitness and could be icluded among the substitutes. Aston Villa, beaten by Steaua Bucharest in the Uefa Cup in midweek, will still be without Taylor, who is suspended for three matches, but Curcic may

expected to be out of action for a month because of an injury sustained during England's friendly with Cameroon, could be fit for the club's return fixture against Steaua on December 9.

WEST HAM LINITED (probable: 4-3-1-2): L Mildosko — T Breacker, S Potts, I Paerce, D Unsworth — F Lampard, S Lomas, A Impey — E Berkovic — S Abou, J Hartson ASTON VRLIA (possible; 3-4-1-2): M Celess — U Ehlogu, S Sautaion. R Scrimeca — G Charles, F Nalson, M Draper, A Wight — D Yorke — S Colymore, S Miscavic. Reference P Alcock

■ TELEVISION: Today: Match of the Day, extended highlights, ■ PREDICTION: A draw.



Rob Hughes Can this still be November, with Arsenal and Liverpool already stretched breaking-point, struggling to stay the FA Carling Premiership pace with Manchester United?

Liverpool's visits to Highbury are usually declarations of championship intent. Arsenal have scored only twice, and gained a solitary point, in six league matches against them. However, Bergkamp and Wright would scarcely decline such gins as the goal Berger handed Barns-

ley last Saturday. Liverpool no longer trust their defence, hence a trip by Roy Evans, the manager, to Norway

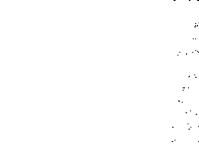


**ARSENAL** LIVERPOOL indiscipline that deprives Liver-

ARSENAL (possible; 4-4-2). D Seamen — L
Dixon, M Keown, A Ademe, N Winterburn — S
Hughes, D Platt, E Pett, M Overmars — I Wight,
D Bergham,
LIVERPOOL (possible, 4-4-2): D James — J
McAleer, B T Kvarme, D Metteo, S I Bjørnebye
— S McMensman, P Berger, J Redknapp, O
Leonhardsen — M Owen, K Riedle,
Referee: G Poll.

TELEVISION: Tornorrow: Live on Sky Sports 1, from 3pm.

PREDICTION: A draw, with goals please.



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no sign of leaving, instead. SOUTHAMPTON (probable; 4-3-1-2): P Jones
- J Dodd, K Monfou, G Lundskoam, F Bensti
- M Caldey, C Palmer, K Flichardson -- M La
Tssaier -- K Davles, D Härst.
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (probable; 4-4-2): K
Pressman -- I Nolan, D Walker, J Newsoms, L
Bracco -- G Whatinghem, J Megitton, P
Athenton, P Rudi -- P di Canio, A Booth.
Réferes: S Durn



Ivo Tennant After West Ham United's defeat at Elland Road last Sunday, Harry Redknapp, the manager, declared that his team were "all singing and danc-

How, then, will they feel if they defeat Aston Villa in their FA

decidedly different proposition at home — at least when Berkovic is concentrating on his impressive game. Kitson, whom Hartson, in



Tomorrow, 4.0 (sold out)

last Thursday to see Erik Hoftun. 28. the disciplined left-sided de-fender, and Vegard Heggam, 22. the right back. combine as Rosenborg blocked out Real Ma-drid. Leeds United are also interested in Hoftun. Evans, meanwhile, rues the

pool of Ince's midfield bite and Fowler's finish. Both are suspended, but tell Arsenal about accumulated suspensions! Arsenal have incurred more than 100 yellow cards in the past 13 months. Bould and Grimandi are under suspension, although Bergkamp returns, as does Petit. Injuries to Vieira and Parlour also bedevil Arsenal's continuity.

#### **FOOTBALL SATURDAY**

# To ignore Ginola's ambition would be a Gross mistake

am not sure that David Ginola and Christian Gross had even shaken hands at Tottenham Hotspur before everyone was assuming that David would be the first casualty of the new regime. If Gross is even half the coach that he is reputed to be, he will not be so hasty in his judgment.

. 55 m/v

I should declare an interest. David and I spent two years together at Toulon as teenagers and he is one of my best friends. It is strange to think that we have ended up in the FA Carling Premiership together a decade later because, at that time, his career was about to take off while mine almost came to a very premature end, the club releasing me as a 19-year-old, after which I spent two years out of the game. Football is the last topic of conversation when we socialise in

London these days, but I know enough about the situation at Spurs to say that David, contrary to widespread belief, will not be dreading Gross's arrival.

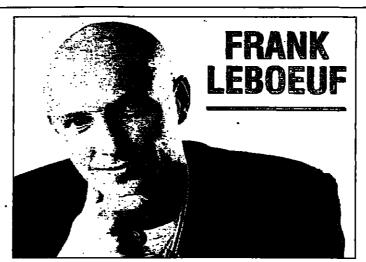
Gross's strengths seem typical of Germanic coaches, with discipline, fitness and organisation his key points. He reminds me of the German manager we used to have at Strasbourg, who made us train in tracksuits from head to toe, even in the heat of summer. He would not even let us unzip the tops! One day, our goalkeeper fainted through dehydration — but that coach led us to promotion and, when you are winning games, you

tolerate anything. It will be the same for the Spurs players and David will be as happy as anyone to work if it changes the club's fortunes. That may surprise those people who have a fixed idea of him, but he is

one of those players whom people love to talk about without really knowing the man, or the facts.

I know it has hurt him not to be in the international squad and he does care passionately about his football. Anyone who does not believe that should have seen us in training at Toulon all those years .ago. We were supposed to be best friends, but we almost had a fight one day over a hard tackle, spending the rest of the game looking for revenge Luckily, we have made up since.

■ Happy to be in shadows The pressure on gifted players to perform every week is just the same at Chelsea, particularly for someone like Gianfranco Zola. I spoke to him after the game against Everton on Wednesday and he was saying that he felt



of the game. Then, without warning, after 25 minutes he just felt

that power drain out of him. That happens to all of us and you cannot put your finger on it. You just have to keep trying your hardest and hope the feeling comes back. That is exactly what Franco did and we ended up with a 2-0 win on Wednesday, despite not

playing as well as we can. It has lifted us to third in the table, so these are exciting times for us all, although you can be sure there will no talk of championships at Stamford Bridge, even if great in the warm-up and the start we beat Derby County today and

go level on points with Manchester United. No one is mentioning us as genuine title challengers and we are more than happy with that situation. Let everyone concentrate on United, Arsenal and Liverpool and leave us in peace. That is how

■ Dutch masterclass It is easy to forget that professional players are also still football supporters at heart and I felt like rushing to find an autograph book at the training ground this week. Outside with our manager, Ruud Gullit, were Frank Rijkaard.

Ronald Koeman and Johann Neeskens, all supervising a youth team training session. It is hard to think of a more talented quartet and the young guys must have thought they had died and gone to heaven. Neeskens, in particular, was a boyhood hero of mine. The way he struck the ball, sometimes even seeming to have his eyes closed, made an impact on me even as a six-year-old watching the 1974 World Cup.

The four of them are taking their Dutch coaching certificate and their sessions at Chelsea were part of that programme. Luckily, they had not brought their boots, because they looked like they could have put together a mean five-a-side team, with their compatriot, De Goey, in goal.

■ Platini injustice I see there has been a poll for an International Hall of Fame and I was amazed to see Michel Platini not only excluded from the top five but way down in eighteenth place. It is a scandal!

For me, there are three greats -Pelé, Maradona and Platini. After that, there are the rest. When Juventus fans voted last season for the best player to have worn the black-and-white shirt, Platini was comfortably the winner - and there have been quite a few stars through that particular club. I remember when he played his

testimonial seven or eight years ago and, at the end of the game, Maradona rushed up to him to change shirts. You do not get much higher respect than that. Then there was the time that he played at Wembley just at the end of his career and came off shortly before the end of the game to a standing ovation. A Frenchman clapped off at the home of English football? That is indeed a rare accolade!

People seem to have forgotten just how good he was. We all have bias towards our own countrymen. but I cannot believe Platini was not ranked higher. Anyone care to disagree?

■ Family comes first

Apologies for finishing on a downbeat note, but I could not let this column pass without a mention of the horrific massacre in Luxor recently. I had been hoping to take my family to Egypt on holiday in the near future and had even been reading extensively about the country's past in readiness.

I find it a fascinating place, but

the ancient words of Rameses about everyone being equal and giving their best for the good of the country seem empty now. Like Israel, where I have been invited by friends but turned down the invitation because of worries about the safety of my children. Egypt is now a no-go area. How can we stop this barbarism?

#### **FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP**

		٦ ۵	1			HOME					AWAY	1.5.		LAST 1D	75.
(Last week's position in brackets)	PARED	POINTS	egir.	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	LAST 10 MATCHES W-D-L	CHETTER
1. MANCHESTER UTD (1)	15	31	+24	6		0	23	4	3	3	2	13	8	5-3-2	W1
2. BLACKBURN ROVERS (3)	15	30	+14	5	2	1	17	9	3	4	0	10	4	4-5-1	W2
3. CHELSEA (4)	15	28	+14	5	0	4	12	6	4	1	4	19	11	5-1-4	W1
4. ARSENAL (2)	15	27	+13	5	2	0	18	3	2	4	2	12	14	5-3-2	L1
5. LEEDS UTD (5)	.15	26	+6	4	1	3	13	11	4	1	2	10	6	7-1-2	W3
6. DERBY COUNTY (8)	14	23	+8	5	2	0	17	5	2	0	5	11	15	5-2-3	W1
7. LEICESTER CITY (7)	15	23	+5	3	4	2	11	8	3	1	2	8	6	4-3-3	DI
8. LIVERPOOL (6)	14	22	+11	5	0	2	18	6	1	4	2	7	8	5-2-3	L1
9. NEWCASTLE UTD (10)	12	21	0	.5	2	1	12	9	1	1	2	4	7	4-3-3	W1
10. CRYSTAL PALACE (12)	14	19	-1	0	3	3	4	9	5	. 1	2	10	6	3-4-3	W1
11. WIMBLEDON (9)	15	19	-2	2	2	5	10	14	3	2	1	8	6	4-2-4	L1
12. ASTON VILLA (15)	15	18	-6	3	1	3	8	12	2	2	4	7	9	4-3-3	W1
13. COVENTRY CITY (11)	15	17	-6	2	6	0	10	8	1.	2	4	3	11	2-6-2	L1
14. SOUTHAMPTON (13)	15	16	-5	4	1	3	13	10	1	0	6	5	13	4-1-5	L1
15. WEST HAM UTD (14)	14	16	6	4	0	1	10	4	1	1	7	8	20	3-0-7	L3
16. SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (19)	15	15	-10	4	1	3	15	12	0	2	5	10	23	3-2-5	W2
17. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (16)	15	13	-11	3	2	3	7	8	0	2	5	4	14	1-3-6	L4
18. BOLTON WANDERERS (18)	14	13	-11	1	4	1	3	3	1	3	4	7	18	1-5-4	D1
19. BARNSLEY (20)	15	13	-28	2	1	4	6	15	2	0	6	6	25	2-1-7	W1
20. EVERTON (17)	15	12	-9	3	1	3	11	11	0	2	6	5	14	2-2-6	L4

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ATTAC	K.	
Goals so	ored .	Avge
1. Manchester Utd	36	2.40
2. Cheisea	31	2.07
3. Arsenai	30	2.00
4. Derby	28	2.00
5. Blackburn	27	1.80
<ol><li>Liverpool</li></ol>	25	1.79
7. Sheffield Wed	25	1.67
8. Leeds	23	1.53
9. Newcastle	16	1.33
10. Leicester	19	1.27
11. West Ham	18	1.27
12. Southampton	18	1.20
<ul> <li>Wimbledon</li> </ul>	18	1.20
14. Everton	16	1.07
15. Aston Villa	15 .	1.00
16. Crystał Palace	14	1.00
17. Coventry	13	0.87
18. Barnsley	12	0.80
19. Tottenham	11	- 0.73
20. Bolton	10	0.71
		1
DEFER	ئ چا <b>ن</b>	
Goals conc	eded	Avge
1. Manchester Utd	12	0.80
2. Blackburn	13	0.87
3. Leicester	14	0.93

15

1.60 1.79

233

2.67

 Wimbledon 12 Aston Villa 13. Derby 14. Tottenham 15. Bolton

16. Southempton

19. Sheffield Wed

17. West Ham

18. Everton

20. Barnsley

0.71	Wimbledon .	5	1
*	CLEAN	SHEEJ	Ś
Avge		Clean sheet	Failed to score
0.80	Arsenal	6	
0.93	Aston Villa	. 4	
1.00	Barnsley	3	. (
1.07	Blackbum	7 5	- 3
1.13	Bolton	6	
1.13	Chelsea Coventry	5	í
1.13	Crystal Palace	4	è
1.27	Derby	3	3
1.33	Everton	3	
1.33	Leeds Utd	· 4	. 6
1.40 1.43	Leicester	6	
	Liverpool	4	-
1.47 1,50	Manchester Utd	8 4	
1.53	Newcastle	4	_
1.33	Sheffield Wed	*	

SCORING TRENES

Arsenal

Aston Villa

Bamsley

Bolton

Chelses

Coventry

Leeds Utd

Leicester

Liverpool

Newcastle

Tottenham

West Ham

Southampton

Tottenham

West Ham

Wimbledon

Manchester Utd

Sheffield Wed

Southampton

Derby

Crystal Palace

	Goals
Bergkamp (Arsenal)	10
Sutton (Blackburn)	10
Wright (Arsenal)	9
Baiano (Derby)	9
Cole (Manchester Utd)	8
Hartson (West Ham)	8
Carbone (Sheffield Wed)	7
Davies (Southampton)	7
Dublin (Coventry)	7
Gallacher (Blackburn)	7
Sheringham (Manchester Utd	
Wallace (Leeds)	7
Fowler (Liverpool)	6
Wanchope (Derby)	6
Barnes (Newcastle)	5
Berkovic (West Ham)	5
Cort (Wimbledon)	5
Di Canio (Sheffield Wed)	5
Marshall (Leicester)	5
Speed (Everton)	5
HOVE	

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SCORERS

1. Everton

Arsenal

Bolton

4. Coventry C Palac

Leeds Utd

8. West Har

9. Derby 10. Sheffield

Blackbun

Tottenhal

Southam

Wimbledo

Liverpool

17. Barnsley 18. Leicester

19. Newcasti

20. Aston Villa

Attendance	Average	%, fut
Arsenal	37,984	999
Aston Villa	35,925	919
Barnsley	18,419	1009
Blackburn	23,952	769
Bolton ·	24,138	979
Chelsea	32,745	989
Coventry	18,926	809
Crystal Palace	22,166	849
Derby	24,293	819
Everton	35,421	889
Leeds	34,982	879
Leicester	20,225	949
Liverpool	36,891	979
Manchester Utd	55,122	98%
Newcastle	36,708	1009
Sheffield Wed	25,726	65%
Southampton	15,165	999
Tottenham	26,196	79%
West Ham	25,305	97%
Wimbledon	17,010	65%

30 3 2. G Will 3. M Red 4. D Elle 5. P Dur 6. P Alci 7. G Ast 8. M Box 9. G Bar 10. J Win 11. U Red 10. J Win 11. U Red 11. U Red 11. U Red 12. G Pol 13. N Bar 14. M Rite 21 0 15. P Jon 16. K Bur 17. D Gal 18. K Will 17. D Gal 18. A Will 18. A Will 19. A Will 19	UTIO	NS !	REF	
34 1 1. S Dur 30 3 31 1 2. G Will 3. M Red 4. D Elle 4. D Elle 5. P Dur 6. P Alor 7. G Ash 7. G Ash 8. M Box 9. G Bar 10. J Win 11. U Rer 125 0 10. J Win 11. U Rer 12. G Pol 13. N Bar 14. M Rile 15. P Jour 16. K Bur 17. 1 17. D Gal 18. A Willi 18. A Willi 18. A Willi 19. G G G G 19. G		Yellow	Red	
•	Wed n n oton er Utd* n	33 34 30 31 31 31 28 31 29 26 25 24 22 21 18 17	31311130022100010111	1. S Dunn 2. G Willard 3. M Reed 4. D Elleray 5. P Durkin 6. P Alcock 7. G Ashby 8. M Bodenhar 9. G Barber 10. J Winter 11. U Rennie 12. G Poll 13. N Barry 14. M Riley 15. P Jones 16. K Burge 17. D Gallagher 18. A Wilkie 19. S Lodge
			]	

AW	AY.		INTERNET
Attendance	P	Average	FA Premiership clubs' official website
Arsenal	8	29,169	Arsenal www.arsenal.co.u
Aston Villa	8	27,530	Aston Villa www.astonvilla-fc.co.u
Barnslev	8	29,791	Валтыеу
Blackbum	7	25,062	www.yorkshire-web.co.uk/blc/blc.htr
Bolton	8	22,016	Biackburn www.rovara.co.u
Chelsea	9	30,247	Bolton www.boltonwic.co.u Chalses www.chalsestic.co.u
Coventry	7	27,227	
Crystal Palace	8	26,915	Coventry www.cdc.co.u C Palace www.cptc.co.u
Derby	7	28,350	Derby -
Everton	à	28,356	Everion evertoric.merseyworld.com
Leeds	7	23,933	Leeds www.lufc.co.u
Leicester	6	29.875	Leicester www.lcfc.co.u
Liverpool	7	28,906	Liverpool -
Manchester Utd	8	30.892	Man Utd www.sky.co.uk/sports/man
Newcastle	4	29,990	Newcastle www.newcastle-utd.co.uk/mut
			Sheft Wed -
Sheffield Wed	7	30,705	Southampton www.soton.ac.uk/~sair
Southampton	7	31,393	Tottenham www.spurs.co.u
Tottenham .	7	28,220	West Ham www.westhemunited.co.u
West Ham	9	29,358	Wimbledon -
Wimbledon	6	27,771	FA Premiership www.fa-carting.com

The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, is Tom Whitelaw, of Bearsden in Scotland

#### **WEEKEND MATCHES**

Vauxhall Conference

Belf's Scottish League Premier division

(---) Famborough v Kidderminste (---) Galeshead v Yeovi (---) Hereford v Dover (---) Ketering v Slevsnage (---) Leek v Chellenham

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FA Carting Premiership

(3) | Chessa Veloy: |4| Coverity v Leicester |5| "† Crystal Palace v Newcastle |6| Everton v Totlenham |7| † Southampton v Sheffield Wednesday |8| † West Harn v Aston Villa

Nationwide League First division

(13) Middlesbrough v West Bromwich . (14) Oxford Utd v Port Vale 

Second division (20) Brentford v Wreitham (21) Bristof Hovers v MidWail (22) Burnley v Northampton (23) Carlistle v Binstol City (24) Chesterheid v Southend (25) Gillingham v Grimsby ... (26) Plymouth v Oldham ... (27) Preston v Futham ... (27) Preston v Futham ...

Third division (32) Barnet v Darlington (33) Cambridge Uld v Hartlepcol (34) Cardill v Scarborough (35) Chester v Exeter

25 37

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Lincoln
Peterborough
Exeter
Notis County
Scurithope
Hartiepool
Chester
Barnet
Macclesfield
Rotherham
Scarborough
Colchester
Strewsbury
Cardit
Torquay
L Ovent
Mansfield
Rochdale
Camb Utd
Derlington
Swonsea
Hull
Brighton
Doncaster

COVERAGE	
BBC1: Today: Match of the Day; Iron 10 50pm (repeated formorrow at 7 20em).	n
EUROSPORT: Today: Asia/Oceania zon play-off, second leg. Australia v Iran, fro	æ
Sam (Ive) SKY SPORTS: 1: Tomorrow: Goals of Sunday, 11am, Premership, Liverpool	ų
Arsenal (liver, from 3pm, Scottish Cocc Cota Cup final, highlights, from 8.30pm Premiership highlights from 12.30am (	r
Today: Soccer AM from 8am 3: Scotts Cota-Cola Cup final, Celtic v Dundo	'n
United (live), from 2pm.  RADIO: BBC Radio 5 Live: Today: Live coverage in Sport on 5, from ten	æ
Tomorrow: Live coverage of all trace to games in Sunday Sport, from Inm Tal	Ç
Radio: Today: Nationande League, Ipswic	r

(40) Hibernian v Motherwell First division (42) Airdne v Stirling (43) Greenock Morton v Partick (44) Hamilton v Dundee (45) Raith v Ayr (46) SI Mirren v Falfurk Second division (47) Brechin v Clyde (48) Inverness CT v Queen of South (49) Livnoston v East File (—) Stenhousemuir v Clydebank (—) Strannaer v Fortar Third division (---) Alloa v Albion
(---) Berwick v Ross County
(----) Cowdenbeath v Queen's Park
(----) Dumbartion v Arbroath
(----) Montrose v East Stirling (—) Montrose v East String

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division.
Astintod v Fotest Green Gresley v Crawley.
Worcester Cay v Rothwell Michand division:
Evesham v Blakenali likeston v Sudon Coldield
Town, Pager R v Bedworth, Shepshed D v RC
Warsnck, Stafford v Biston, Stourbridge v Brackley
Town, VS Rugby v Moor Green Southern division:
Baldock v Newport AFC, Clewecon v Tombridge
Angels Deritord v Trowbridge Fisher London v
Weston-super-Mare; Falet T v Cinderford, Havani v
Wirrey Newport low v Yare Waterloowile v Erith
and Behedder
RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Carshalton v
Hendon, Enfeld v Gravesend and Northfleet,
Ningstonan v Cagenham and Redbindge First

> How do you get to Everton? Go down Past Bolton and Barnsley 7 threre

TOMORROW

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Cork v Kilkenny (20), UCD v Dundali 23 15:

GIVENOR: LOIN & REMERTING 12 01, Oct. & School 13 15]
FA WOMEN'S PREMER LEAGUE: National Armshore division: Doncaster v Wernbley (at Armthorpe Wettare Ground, 20), Everton v Bradford (at Marine FC, 20)

† Arsenal v Liverpool (4.0) † Manchester Utd v Blackburn (3.0)

FA Carling Premiership

Scottish Coca-Cola Cup Final

Statistics compiled by Julian Desborough

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experience ohs heavi

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#### Girl power provides education for Dutch

FROM EDWARD GORMAN SAILING CORRESPONDENT IN FREMANTLE

THE last two boats in the Whitbread Round The World Race fleet reached here early yesterday separated by little more than an hour, the all-women crew aboard EF Education showing the men in BrunelSunergy the route to the finish.

It has been a respectable performance by the women. whose skipper, Christine Guillou, of France, gave a warning in Cape Town before the start of the leg that heavy running conditions in the Southern Ocean would make it harder for them to compete. In the event, they did not

experience more than 35 knots, which offered an opportunity to beat Hans Bouscholte and his crew and give Grant Dalton, in Merit Cup, who finished just 72 hours in front of them, a run for his money.
The Dutch, seemingly out-

classed, are beginning to realise that the best they can do is play catch-up. Bouseholte said: "The other competitors have done a lot of two-boat optimising - we didn't. Maybe we are not as progressed.

Stuart Quarrie, of Great
Britain, who joined the boat
as navigator in Cape Town, provided a revealing insight into the tactical and navigational realities of a race that is producing wild swings of fortune. He said: "These boats

are so different in boatspeed when you get one or two knots more breeze that if you are conservative and somebody gets a tiny bit more, they are gone and you never catch up. You have to take risks." Almost all the boats are out of the water at the Fremantle Sailing Club, as the shore

crews working through job-lists in preparation for the third leg of 2.250 miles head for Sydney on December 13. Gunnar Krantz, skipper of Swedish Match, meanwhile, announced that Matt Humphries, of Great Britain. who joined as a driver in Cape Town, will remain on Tour rivals fear backlash at Wembley after New Zealand fall short of high expectations

# Wales pinpoint weaknesses in All Black armour

ANOTHER week, another football stadium and another step on New Zealand's northern-hemisphere odyssey. as well as an important staging post for Wales on their road back to respectability. For the All Blacks last week it was Old Trafford and England, today it is Wembley and Wales at a venue that stages a rugby union international for only the second time. It is an historic setting, a stage on which players can either freeze

or flourish History is stacked against Wales. They have not beaten New Zealand since 1953 and have only won three times in all. The match today, however, the seventeenth between two nations of rich rugby heritage, has the potential to belit the occasion, with both teams wedded to the idea of running, swashbuckling rugby. New Zealand feel they still have something to prove, while

Wales are keen to eat at rugby's high table once again. Wembley's sense of history is all-embracing as Nigel Walker, the Wales left wing.

WALES

K A Morgan

Young (Caroiff)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 L B Davies

(Cardiff), 17 A C Thomas (S 18 P John (Pontypridd), 19 S M Williams (Cardiff), 20 S G John (Cardiff), 21 J M Humphreys (Cardiff)

discovered when the team trained there on Thursday. The trick is not to let it overwhelm. "I was trying to visualise where Geoff Hurst scored his hat-trick in 1966. where Jonathan Davies scored his try for Great Britain." Walker said. "So much has happened there. I was like a kid in a sweet shop, gazing at the surface, the sheer size of

It will be a new experience for both countries; how each adapts will be crucial. Wentbley is Wales's temporary home for the next two years while the National Stadium. 140 miles down the M4 in Cardiff, is rebuilt. With regard to the team, the building metaphor is appropriate as this international is also an important juncture in the redevelopment of Wales under Kevin Bowring.

Even a year ago, Wales would have dreaded the prospect of facing the All Blacks. But times are changing and the Welsh have reason not to the thought of New Zealand,

**NEW ZEALAND** 

12 W K Little (North Harbour)

9 J W Marshall (Canterbury)

5 R M Brooke (Auckland)
6 T G Randell (Otago)
7 J A Kronfeld (Otago)
8 Z V Brooke (Auckland)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 S J McLeod

(Waikato), 17 J P Preston (Well-ington), 18 A F Blowers (Auckland)

15 C M Cution (Manar

have found themselves unnecessarily distracted by cheating allegations and two performances that, by their unforgiving standards, fell short of

Within the Wales camp there is a hard-headed realism about what lies in store in front of a capacity 72,000 crowd this afternoon, a realism brought about by the experience of players such as Scott Gibbs and Allan Bateman. Gibbs knows better than most what lies in store.

"Most people now realise that it's no good trying simply to defend against sides as good as New Zealand. That will certainly be the case at Wembley because when I have played there in rugby league the pitch sems to be 80 yards wide. Their back three are so good that we have to be aware their threat." Gibbs said. His fellow centre, Bateman,

feels Wales have found chinks in the All Blacks armour. They are a great side but we have targeted a couple of areas of weakness, which we will be trying to expose," he said. "It all depends on how much ball

we win.

"If we can get enough possession, then we have got much more potential in the back line than England. I am sure we can pose them a lot more problems than England did at Old Trafford. 'I am sure our coaches will

be looking just as much at the Welsh performance as the result, but for all the players it is the result that matters. "It could be a fantastic game, but if we get beaten by 60 points we are not going to

be happy. But we won't mind

if it's a drab game and we win

by penalties. Mike Catt did not have one of his best games with the boot against New Zealand last week, but I am sure they will be very wary of Neil's [Jen-



New Zealand are great admirers of Howley, the Wales scrum half, who is champing at the bit. Photograph: Neil Munns

kins] kicking ability. They will not want to infringe too much knowing what Neil could do to them, so hopefully that will allow us to get a lot more possession from off the floor." The All Blacks, however, are

equally aware of the threat posed by the four British Isles representatives in the Wales threequarter line. John Hart, the New Zealand coach, talks of his respect and admiration

for such players and privately of the damage they can cause. He knows that Howley is champing at the bit, while Jenkins will not be as forgiving as Catt last week.

The problem for Wales will be providing sufficient ball for their backs to wreak some kind of havoc, while also being able to maintain their defensive shape for 80 minutes. That is why, during the buildup this week, attention has been focused solely on the forward effort in the knowledge that the backs can live with anybody.

"We will have to bank hard for an hour and the try to step it up in the last 20 minutes. I feel concentration has been lacking a bit in the sides that have so far played New Zealand, although a lot

Wales know too that New Zealand are their own worst critics. "Not once this year have we reached the benchmark we set ourselves," Craig Dowd, the prop, said this week. They are determined to right the wrongs and go through 1997 unbeaten in their

#### board for the rest of the race. GRAB A FREE ATTERNATIONAL ANGEY MAGE HANDICAP BETTING England with an 11 point start 5/6 England 16/1 Draw S. Africa 5/6 Twickenham, Kick-off 2.00pm, Live on SKY. S. AFRICA 6/1, .1-5 pts 11/1 9/2 .6-10 pts 22/1 11-15 pts .4/1 40/1. 16-20 pts .9/2 .21-25 pts. .7/1 150/1... .26-30 pts. FREE £10 18/1 Drawn Match Wales with a 33 point start 5/6 Wales 16/1 Draw N. Zealand 5/6 FOR FIRST TIME Wembley, Kick-off 3.00pm, Live on BBC TV. TELEPHONE CALLERS staking 525 or more asing Switch. Delta or 25/1 25/1 .1-5 pts. Solo bank or building society debit cards. 40/1 20/1 RING TODAY • BET TODAY ..6-10 pts 80/1 .11-15 pts \_14/1 *0800 771 771* 150/1 16-20 pts. .10/1 .21-25 pts. .7/1 bet is a \$10 Correct Win .26-30 pts.. 25/1 Drawn Match scoped Mayins off scretch Other groups on request LATEST RUGBY ODDS • Teletext on CH4 P601/602/603

### Ireland remain wary of emerging opponents

AFTER a satisfactory opening half-hour against New Zealand a formight ago. Ireland should be capable of defeating Canada at Lansdowne Road tomorrow. However, given recent Irish performances against so-called emerging rugby countries, crystal ballgazers might be well advised to be cautious.

Last season, Ireland played two of the smaller international teams, Western Samoa and Italy, in their build-up to the five nations' championship and were beaten by both. 40-25 by Western Samoa and 37-29 by Italy. They also lost against Australia, although that was by just 22-12.

This will be only the second full international match between Ireland and Canada. the first being in the 1987 World Cup, when the Irish left it late before winning by 46-19 in Dunedin. Two years later, on a short North American tour, a euphemistically titled "Ireland XV" unimpressively defeated Canada by 24-21 in Victoria, but that does not count, of course — unless you happen to be a Canadian.

Ticket touts are unlikely to make a killing tomorrow, with a modest gate expected, but, as Keith Wood, the absentee Ireland captain, has rightly said,

By Karl Johnston

this is an important match in Brian Ashton's overall scheme of things; victories over Canada, Italy, Wales and Scotland would add up to a superb season for Ireland, Wood said. Ashton, the Ireland coach, has given the squad that faced

the All Blacks a vote of confidence, with 20 of the 21 being retained before injury forced out Wood, Brian O'Meara, the reserve scrum half, and, late yesterday, Eric Miller. Only two changes were originally made, as Kevin Maggs replaced John



Rees: captain

McWeeney at left wing and David Erskine took over from Eddie Halvey as blind-side

Nevertheless, the Canadians, coached by the former Ireland wing, Pat Parfrey, will not lack confidence. They have an impressive record in recent years and, in their last international match, lost by only three points, 28-25, to Wales last July. Remarkably, two of the side defeated by Ireland in Dunedin over a decade ago -Gareth Rees, the fly half and captain, and Mark Cardinal, the hooker - will be in action again tomorrow.



TOP INTERNATIONAL POINTS-SCORERS (present players TOP TRY-SCORERS Most points in a match: England: 27: R Andrew (Pretoria, 1994) South Africa: 21: J Heunts (Port Etzabeth, 1984) Caps Tries ... 16 3 MATCH-BY-MATCH England v South Africa P E won SA won Drawn . B - 2 5 1 ... 5 2 3 0 MATCH-BY-MATCH Venues
Crystal Pal
Twickenham
Twickenham
Twickenham
Twickenham
Twickenham
Jorburg
Pt Elizabeth
Jorburg
Twickenham
Pretoria
Cape Town

RUGBY UNION STATISTICS





Peanuts Indian Relish, or our spicy Oriental Dipped.

By rights, you'll soon he singing their praises from the rooftops.

Albeit; an octave A PLANTERS two higher.







## South Africa offer chance for players to make amends

ast week, when we went into the first game against New Zealand at Old Trafford, only four members of the England side had experience of playing against — and beating — the All Blacks. Today, double that number can recall how South Africa played against the Lions during the summer and that the chould have as Twickenham should help us at Twickenham.

Nevertheless, on their tour of France, the Springboks showed a lot more flexibility and their players seem to have a confidence that was lacking last summer. They are a wounded animal so far as British rugby is concerned and will be hungry to avenge the series defeat by the Lions and reaffirm that they are back in business. They will be aware that the All Blacks will be

watching, only a few miles away. Nobody in the England squad is under any illusions about the need to win. Winning is paramount at this level and we are realistic about what happened at Old Trafford. We have improved, but there is a long way to go; on the other hand, we are confident that we have the talent to make the quantum leap,

There are still reasons to be cheerful

after defeat by the All Blacks exposed

weaknesses that need to be addressed

not just to match New Zealand but

The mood last Saturday was one of disappointment, however the press may have reported it, and even though some people may have left the stadium mildly satisfied. We lost by 17 points, were outscored by three tries to one and created relatively few scoring chances of our own. That's the stark truth, so we had little to celebrate and that is not why we went round the pitch afterwards on what has been described as a

"lap of honour". That was a gesture of thanks to the people in Manchester. We had talked in the dressing-room beforehand about the fact that no rugby union international had been played there for 100 years and we felt that it was important to thank the supporters for the atmosphere

they created, which was unique in our experience. Even in trying circumstances, with the team trailing by 17 points, they had stuck with us and we needed to show our appreciation - on that evidence, it won't be the last game played at Old Trafford, either.

I would also add that I believe New Zealand to be a beatable side. Perhaps we have become hung up in the mythology of the All Blacks, that they are the world's best team and that their midweek side is the world's second-best team, which did not look to be the case in Bristol last Tuesday. We learnt an expen-sive lesson at Old Trafford, particularly when they hit us with two quick scores in the first half, which clearly demonstrated we were committing too many men to the rucks and mauls.





country to play with our heads down in defence, rather than looking at what the opposition are doing. When they move ball swiftly from the point of contact and you find players such as the Brooke brothers and Ian Jones

standing out in the backs, clearly they have been able to clear possession with fewer players. The difference between the All Blacks and the rest is that, when they

apply pressure, they maintain it. There were long periods when we did apply pressure to them and that was part of the reason I chose to kick some penalties to touch in their 22, rather than at goal: at those particular moments, it was important to keep the momentum going, to turn the screw and try to achieve the maximum number of points available. That our pressure did not result in points is some-thing we can deal with, we can explore different ways of ramming home the advantage, whether it be in three points, five or seven.

I was interested to hear John Hart, the New Zealand coach, say afterwards that his team played as they had trained in their last session before Old Trafford. Clearly, he was dissatisfied at the quality of that session, which, as they won by 17 points, is an indication of what is required if we are to lift our own standards; our own training on Tuesday, therefore, was extremely demanding, both physically and mentally. Since we lost three players injured from the match today — Kyran Bracken, Tony Diprose and Phil de Glanville — it may also have sounded expensive, but there has been a cumulative effect upon

bodies in this intense series of

matches. You have to train as you

to a place in the remaining two games in the series. I would like to

think that, with each game, we are

'I believe New Zealand to be a beatable side want to play, to reproduce the

intense pressure and, rather than stepping down as we go through these games, we need to go up two or three gears. Our session included opposed training and was healthy and competitive, including a number of big hits, which reflected the enthusiasm of everyone to aspire Henry Honiball who offer an obvious threat, I believe that the players we have pose similar problems for them.

We will go into the match without Martin Johnson, after his one-match suspension. Martin is a world-class player, one of the best locks in international rugby with first-hand experience of playing against — and beating — South Africa. All I will say is that the whole squad wants to be involved in a clean game, that the team incident with Justin Marshall and taken the appropriate action swiftly; that has been important, that decisions are made for or against rather than being allowed to drift

We have to see this as an opportunity for Danny Grewcock. who has trained well and shows a passion to play for England. That is what this series is about, assessing which players can suc-ceed against the best and Danny has no bigger stage than against

and create uncertainty.

# England's lack of experience weighs heavily

By DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE prospect of two crowds. each in excess of 70,000. assembling to watch international rugby union being played within a dozen miles of each other is at once exhilarating and alarming. Exhilarating that rugby can attract such capacity numbers at Twickenham and Wembley this afternoon; alarming that such high-profile matches should be fighting for attention at the

But then, forward planning has not been a feature of the game's administration during the birth of the professional game these past two years. However, the players whom so many spectators have come to see have been swept up in the madcap dash of which November has consisted.

During this past fortnight of international extravaganza there has been only one change in the global rankings: New Zealand, who play Wales at Wembley, have confirmed their superiority, but South Africa have edged ahead of England, whom they meet at Twickenham. Indeed, the Springboks are closing down on France in terms of results since the 1995 World Cup and victory this afternoon would restore them to second place and affirm their traditional rivalry with the All Blacks.

It is a victory they must be favoured to achieve in the Nike international, despite the political and playing problems that littered the first half of the southern-hemisphere season. England, for all the encouragement that they have justifiably derived from their recent matches with New Zealand and Australia, are long on enthusiasm but desperately short of experience - even shorter, now, for the loss through suspension of Martin Johnson and through injury of

Phil de Glanville. Only three of their players have reached double figures in terms of international appearances; contrast that with the experience available to the British Isles during their tour of South Africa last summer, when they won the series by the skin of Jeremy Guscott's dropped goal in Durban against a South Africa side at odds with itself. If the Springboks have achieved anything over the past month it is the restoration of confidence and, even if they choose to regard



AUTUMN **CHALLENGE** 

the 52-10 dismissal of France last Saturday as a fond aberration, it goes a long way to balancing England's home

advantage.
"I think I have got selection right," Nick Mallett said, using his words carefully. The utter frustration Mallett must have felt while South Africa sumbled from crisis to crisis earlier this year can hardly be imagined. Now that he is coach he has moved Percy Montgomery from centre to full back. Andre Snyman from wing to centre, introduced the inventive Dick Muir at centre, restored Adrian Garvey to prop and assured Henry Honiball that he is a worldclass fly half.

The response has been evident in Italy and France, but Mallett recognises today as the biggest hurdle of his first months in office. Success at Twickenham, where South Africa have played on only seven occasions in 84 years, losing in 1969 and 1992, would be affirmation of his playing

Roger Uttley, the England

manager, shrugged off his team's lack of experience. "It's only a concern in terms of the amount of preparation the boys have had," he said. Yet the England tight forwards have still to repair the damage wrought in South Africa, when as Lions they found themselves bypassed by their Celtic cousins.

An encouraging display against New Zealand a week ago has been undermined by the loss of Johnson, though Danny Grewcock, 25, has an unparallelled opportunity to make his mark at lock. It will be his first game at the stadium. Matthew Dawson is even more eager to resume his international career against the least experienced player in the South Africa XV, Werner

The Northampton scrum half became the linchpin of the Lions, but gave way to Kyran Bracken earlier this month. Now he has the chance to feed the midfield of Mike Catt and Will Greenwood that, allied to and speed of Neil Back, proved the making of the Lions' midweek XV. Indeed, Back is regarded by the South Africans as the player who may undo many of their plans, such is their regard for his pace to the breakdown.

Yesterday, the Rugby Football Union called for immediate talks with BSkyB, the satellite television company part-owned by News International, owner of The Times, to resolve payment issues relating to the five-year contract signed last year.

And the second s	
ENGLAND	SOUTH AFRICA
M B Perry (Bath) 1	5 P C Montgomery (Western Prov)
J Bentley (Newcastie) 1	A JT Small (Western Province)
W J H Greenwood (Leicester) 1	3 A H Snyman (N Transvaal)
N J J Greenstock (Wasps) 1	2 D J Muir (Western Prov)
D L Rees (Sale) 1	1 P W G Rossouw (Western Prov)
M J Catt (Bath) 1	O H W Hoolball (Natal)
M J S Dawson (Northampton)	9 W Swanepoel (Free State)
Leonard (Harlequins)	1 J P du Randt (Free State)
	2 J Dalton (Gauteng)
	3 A C Garvey (Natal)
	4 K Otto (Northern Transvaal)
	5 M G Andrews (Natal)
	6 A D Altken (Western Province)
	7 A G Venter (Free State)
	8 G K Telchmann (Natal)*
*Captain	"Captain
Referee: C J Ha	wke (New Zealand)
REPLACEMENTS: 16 P J Grayson.	REPLACEMENTS: 16 J Swart
(Northampton), 17 A S Healey	(Western Province), 17 J H de Beer
(Leicester), 18 C M A Sheesby	(Free State), 18 D van Zyl
(Wasps), 19 S D Shaw (Wasps),	(Mpumalanga), 19 R B Skinstad
20 G C Roymtree (Leicester).	(Western Province), 20 W Meyer (Free
21 M P Regen (Bath)	State), 21 A E Drotake (Free State)

# Rebel wing's long and winding road to respectability leads to Twickenham



Small, the explosive South Africa wing, is intensely proud of the rugby heritage of his country. "I have huge respect for the colours," he said

et us paint the faces of James Small. Holder the record number of appearances for South Africa - the first South African to be sent off in an international. One short of the record of international tries by a South African - agent provocateur throughout his career. Male model - nightclubbing, party-guy at the cost of his Springbok place.

Let us try again: Small, the toast of a rugby-mad nation. Small, the man of soul and man of business. Small, the chairman of a disciplinary committee? No. that last is absolutely true. Small, the senior player of the South Africa party that comes to Twickenham today to play England, chairs the squad's internal disciplinary committee and even he can scarcely

suppress a chuckle. I'm growing old in a dignified manner," he said, and burst out laughing at the thought. "Maybe it's because I've experienced both sides of it. People change every day." At 28, Small believes himself to be on the "doorstep of the best rugby of my career". Why has it taken him so long? He erupted on to the international stage in 1992, when South Africa were readmitted to international competition, scored eight tries in seven appearances but his talent was somehow submerged in the image of the young rebel.

Small himself admitted that

he plays up to the role because

He was raised in Johannesburg, where he played rugby and football; his father, Vernon, won Springbok colours in

The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, is Tom Whitelaw, of Bearsden in Scotland

# Looking bening the Small faces

it is good for business, but you suspect that only now has he managed to achieve an element of control. That has to do with the passing of the years, with a degree of personal contentment with his life in Cape Town, his birthplace, with his partner, Christina. but it has also to do with the febrile nature of South African society and South African rugby during his ascent towards manhood.

You love him or loath him. The British Isles inclined towards the latter emotion in South Africa last summer, notably after a tense encounter between Small and John Bentley when the Lions played Western Province in Cape Town. Bentley spent the afternoon needling Small, there was an altercation and later Small accused his opposite number of eye-gouging. The charge was swiftly denied but the two wings appear again today, although not in direct

kick each other as much as the ball," he said. "It was a very bad team but it was difficult in those days for a young white kid to get anywhere in the game. There was no discipline, no team structure, everyone screaming at each





1956 at inside left. "The foot-

ball side I played with used to

volved in a nightclub fracas. n 1996 he still courted controversy and was dropped from an international with New Zealand for breaking the team curfew. "I'm growing up as a man now, my temperament has changed accordingly and I feel I've carried myself well this year - though there are still two games to go," he said.

international in Australia. In

1994 he was cited for a

dangerous tackle in New Zea-

land and withdrawn from the

party that visited Scotland and

Wales after becoming in-

- looking back, that

"I don't look back. Playing rugby for South Africa is a hell of an honour for me, some-thing I hold dear. I have huge respect for the colours I wear. It was through sport I could make something of myself. I

wasn't a great scholar, I'm not a well-educated man — there have been incidents along the way, some of which have been blown up out of proportion. but it's also worked for me.

"You always experience hardship in life but I'm the one who bounced back and that's why people at home appreciate me. They see the fighting spirit. The fact that I'm 100 per cent committed to the causes in my life is why people enjoy me. They tell me not to change, that they love the way I am and that's why they come to

watch rugby.

"Making my life in Cape
Town has been a driving force

I'm at peace there, I have a lovely apartment where I can watch the sun go down over the mountain. It's a very European place, I love the human contact - I can sit in my coffee shop in St George's Mall and talk to the Cape Coloured people, who are very aware of rugby and have a hell of a sense of humour.

"I love my country, I'd never leave my country. The best moment of my life was the bus journey we made round Johannesburg after we had won the World Cup, millions on the streets celebrating, it wasn't just for the three million white people but, like Francois Pienaar said, for the 43 million people. I watched an interview with Liam Gallagher, from Oasis, the other night - he said he'd rather be a footprint than a footnote. I thought that



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ENGLAND V'S SOUTH AFRICA SAT 29TH NOUEMBER 4.15PM POPULAR BUTTON



THE TIMES SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29 1997

**RACING:** TALENTED FRENCH RAIDER ON RIGHT MARK TO SPRING SURPRISE IN HENNESSY

# Dark skies point to Ciel De Brion

RACING CORRESPONDENT

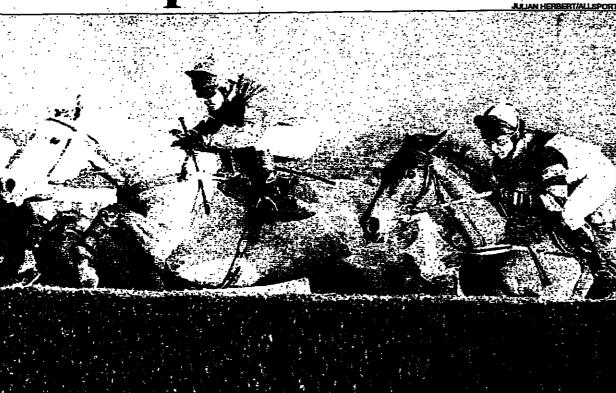
WITH heavy rain falling at Newbury before racing yesterday and the threat of more to follow, the shape of the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup this afternoon has shifted dramatically in favour of proven mudlarks with abundant

Using the combination of soft ground and staying power as a sieve for the 14 runners in today's feature race, the shortlist of horses with the necessary credentials includes

Suny Bay, promoted to favouritism after his impressive front-running victory at Haydock ten days ago, will relish the conditions underfoot and Graham Bradley, his jockey, considers him a Gold

But Charlie Brooks's runner appears to need a break between his races and this arduous test may come too soon. At around 5-2 last season's Grand National runner-up looks plenty short - especially as no favourite has won this race since Burrough Hill Lad in

Belmont King represents Paul Nicholls, whose chasers are in terrific form and winning regularly on their seasonal reappearance. Winner of Chase at Chepstow on his first outing last term, he finished the season with a game defeat of Samlee in the Scottish Grand



The grey Suny Bay is favourite for the Hennessy at Newbury today after his impressive Haydock victory

National at Ayr. A proven mudlark, he will relish the stamina test and must go well - although he does not look well

General Wolfe finished an excellent second behind Suny Bay in the Edward Hanmer Chase at Haydock and reopposes on 5lb better terms for an II-length beating. Tim Forster's tough galloper saves his best for flat, left-handed tracks so should enjoy Newbury and the mud. He would not need to improve much to feature in the finish.

Although Time For A Run is considered best on good ground, the Irish raider has won on heavy and looks fairly treated, judged on his second to King Lucifer at the Cheltenham Festival in March. A winner on the Flat at Listowel in September, he made an encouraging chasing reappearance over an inadequate trip three weeks ago. "He seemed to work well on Satur-

day. Philip Fenton, who rode

him at Cheltenham, thought

the horse was in excellent shape," Edward O'Grady, trainer of the ten-year-old,

However, the runner that I believe has a big chance at enticing odds is Ciel De Brion. the supposed second string of François Doumen. Ignore the handicap as the British handi-

capper has almost certainly underestimated his ability. Significantly, the French chasing handicapper rates the even-year-old only 4.5 kilos inferior to stablemate Djeddah -- which would entitle Ciel De Brion to run here off lost lib. On his most recent run, he finished second in the competitive Prix Montgomery at Auteuil, staying on strong-ly, more than eight lengths

ahead of Djeddah. A good fourth in the Kim Muir at Cheltenham two seasons ago, he actually beat Camitrov, who subsequently finished third in the Arkle. Entered for the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day and Doumen's long-range hope for the Grand National, Ciel De Brion appreciates soft ground and repesents a value bet. Belmont King is the danger.

Away from the gaze of the television cameras, Him Of Praise is strongly fancied to follow up his recent facile success at Towcester by taking the Tim Moloney Memorial Chase at Haydock (2.10) off a 51b higher mark.

Oliver Sherwood was never happy with the talented sevenyear-old last term, but he can make up for lost time this

At Warwick, Soldier Mak looks attractively weighted in the Warwick University Handicap Hurdle (2.30), while Northern Saddler should have ground conditions in his Handicap Chase (1.00)

### Antapoura looks good value to go one better

ه کذا من رلامهل

1.15: Sanmartino has done little wrong over hurdles but is unproven on ground this soft. Significantly, his only defeat came in the Champion Hurdle, where he finished sixth, two places and nearly fourth lengths behind I'm Supposin. Now with Richard Rowe, the former Irish hurdler accounted for Finnegan's Hollow impressively last season and should be fit enough on his seasonal reappearance. Juyush did not always look the most natural hurdler last term despite remaining unbeaten.

1.50: Go-Informal, second to Urubande in the Sun Alliance Novice Hurdle two seasons ago, missed last term but made a most promising comeback behind House Captain over course and distance 18 days ago. Proven on heavy ground, he is sure to run well. However, Antapoura, second in this race 12 months ago, could be the value bet. If Aidan O'Bri-

but has the advantage of

having won on heavy ground.

#### RICHARD EVANS

Nap: CIEL DE BRION (2.25 Newbury) Next best: Him Of Praise (2.10 Haydock Park)

en's mare runs to her best she has a clear-cut chance and the omens are good after a Flat success at the Curragh last month. She will relish

NEWCASTLE CHANNEL 4

1.45: Easby Joker loves this course and goes well fresh. but is not particularly well handicapped. Speaker Weatherill has not been unduly punished for a recent treble. His energetic style, however, may prove ex-hausting on this softer ground, at a stiffer track than Wetherby last time.

Kenmore-Speed copes with the mud, even if he only just gets home over longer trips under testing conditions. Much improved last season, he shaped better than the distance he was beaten on his Cheltenham reappearance might suggest. Royal Vacation prefers faster ground, but the idle Silver Stick could go well.



2.15: Whip Hand is the one to beat, having impressed in small conditions races this season, but is unlikely to offer much in the way of value, as he requires a career-best performance here. Native-Darrig ran particularly well fourth in the Cheltenham handicap won by Mr Percy. given that he is thought not to like undulating tracks.

He can confirm the form with Star Rage, a length behind him (llb better off), who likes the stiff finish here but is better suited by faster ground. Master Beveled, fit from the Flat, put up some sterling efforts in defeat last

2.45: The fairly-treated Fiveleigh Builds sets the standard here, but he ideally wants further. He will also help set a decent pace encouraging interest in the gifted Issyin.

Chasers who have missed season through injury must be fit when risked again, and there is evidence to that effect in the application of blinkers (indispensable to his best form) and the booking of Richard Guest, a jockey adept on horses that need covering up early. Montrave will come on for his reappearance, but RICHARD EVANS Rhossili Bay's jumping is flawed, while River Unshion contested a modest race for Cheltenham last time.

> 3.15: Quango was outbattled by Silly Money at Market Rasen last time, though that looks rather more creditable subsequent victory at Aintree. Well Appointed reverted to timber with success at Kelso last time, a feat that can be emulated by the Tim Easterby-trained Durano.

This honest performer, though baffled by fences this season, comes from a yard in peak form and lends a touch of class to this modest event. It could be decisive that he relishes cut underfoot, unlike Well Appointed and Sea Victor. Bures, who won in style at Sedgefield last time, should ensure a decent pace.

CHRIS McGrath

#### **NEWBURY**

12.45 MISTER ODDY (nap)

2,55 Youbelterbeli Timekeeper's top rating: 2.25 TRYING AGAIN.

GOING: SOFT

12.45 solaglas handicap chase

nly Strong, 7-2 Name Mission Sublime Felion, 4-1 Mister Oddy, 7-1 Amiah. 1996: ASK TOM 7-11-9 R Garriey (7-4 law) T Tale 6 ran

Certainly Strong neck 2nd of 5 to Combrian Challenge in handicap chase at Wetherby (2m. good) with Native Mission (2h better off) if 3d Misser Oddy 161 4th of 7 to Call Equiname in handicap chase at Chellenham (2m. good) with mainth (1th better off) 181 5th Subtime Fellow heat Coolleen Hern 91 in 3-runner handicap chase 0-135 at Warwick (2m. good to soft).

MISTER ODDY goes well round here and the ground has turned in his favour

. 15 EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS GERRY FEILDEN HURDLE (Grade II: £11,840: 2m 110yd) (5 runners)

| 1111- JUPUSH 280 (D.S.S) (W Sunt) J Old 5-11-6 ... Mr A Flogrand 148 | 1161-11 SANMARTINO 18 (CD.F.G.S) (K Abdulla) D Nicholson 5-11-6 ... A Maguire 167 | 227-F/3 FINNEGAN'S HOLLOW 14 (BF.D.C.S) to McManssi A P O'Bren (Re) 7-11-0 . C Swan 140- 1740- 1740- 1740 Supprosit 224 (D.S.) (a Cooper) B Rose 5-11-0 ... D Brighwater (CD.F.S.) (CD.F.R WAN 275 (D.S.S) (6 Thomson) Mrs C Hiels 5-10-9 ... R Durmwoody nartino, 3-1 f/m Supposin, 9-2 Juyush, 7-1 Fisnegan's Hollow, 100-1 loder Wan 1996; ZABADI 4-11-6 N Williamson (11-4) D Nacholson 4 ran

Juyush beat Missinguett 13/1 in 7-mmer hurdie at Haydock (2m. good) Sammartino beat Whip Hand 61 in 4-mmer hurdie at Newbury (2m. 110yd., good). Finnegan's Hollow 12/3 and all 8 to Bavard Jel in grade ill novroe chase at Cork (2m. good to soft). I'm Supposin 14/7 ib ol 11/1 is Shadow Leader in grade il hurdie at Ary (2m. good); premously 74/4 4th ol 17/1 to Malse A Stand in grade il Champion Hurdie at Chehenham (2m. 110yd., good to imm) with Sammartino (61b worse off) 11/1 6th, loder Wan 21/6 6th of 11 to Jahadd in handicap hurdie at Thuries (2m., heavy).

17M SUPPOSIN functied in front of Sammartino in the Champion Hurdle and gets 6(b) COURSE SPECIALISTS

### 1.50 MITSURISHI MOBILE PHONES LONG DISTANCE

BETTING: 5-2 Mininguett, 3-1 Go-Informal, 9-2 Pleasure Shared, 6-1 Anti-Garolo, 12-1 Angelo's Double, 20-1 Spring Marathon

1996: WHAT A QUESTION 8-10-9 G Bradley (4-1) M Morts (Ire) 11 rate

2.25 HEMMESSY COGNAC GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE BECT (Grade III £50,249: 3m 2f 110yd) (14 runners)

Long handicap: Bell Skithoy 9-13, Grange Brake 9-8, Crel De Bnot 8-13. BETTING: 5-2 Suny Bay, 6-1 Djoddati, Time For A Run, 8-1 Tryang Again, 10-1 Barton Bark, Coome Hill, Belmont Ring, General Wolle, 12-1 others.

1998: COOME HILL 7-10-0 J Ostome (11-2) W Detais 11 ran

Barton Bank, 2½1 2nd of 4 to One Man in grade 11 chase at Wesherby (3m 11, good to fam) Coome Hill 5½1 3rd of 6 to Banjo in handicap chase at Chebenham (3m 31 10)yd, good). Suny Bay best General Wolke (5th better off) 111 in 10-runner handicap chase at Haydock (3m, good) with Eudipe (4th better off) 261 4th. Behmont King heat Samlee 1½1 in 17-runner grade III handicap chase at Ayr (4m 11, good) Trying Again 1¼1 2nd of 7 to Behmont King (18th worse off) in grade in handicap chase at Chepskow (3m, good to soft) with Grange Brake (3th worse off) 177 5th; previously head Old Bridge 71 in 7-runner handicap chase at Kempton (2m 41 10)yd, good to soft) with Suny Bay (8th worse off) at 7-runner handicap chase at Rangolog (2m 31, good to soft); previously neck 2nd of 11 to King Lucier in another handicap chase at Chebenham (3m 11, good). Grange Brake 691 4th of 5 to Hillwalk in anothers handicap chase at Chebenham (3m 11, good). Grange Brake 691 4th of 5 to Hillwalk in anothers handicap chase at Chebenham (3m 11, good). Grange Brake 691 4th of 5 to Hillwalk in anothers handicap chase at Chebenham (3m 11, good). Grange Brake 691 4th of 5 to Hillwalk in anothers handicap chase at Chebenham (3m 11, good). Grange Brake 691 4th of 5 to Hillwalk in anothers. SINNY RAY can conflow his releases monress in the lon of the chasing tree.

#### Feel The Power 81 2nd of 8 to Raleagh Native in novice chase at Market Rasen (2m 44, good) Mouse Bird 161 3rd of 8 to Lake Kariba in novice chase at Newton Abbot (2m 110yd, soff). Sounds Fyme 31 2nd of 8 to Master Of The Rock in handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (3m, good to soft). Storm Darnadge bestern a distance (3th of 12 to Brave Tornado in handicap hurdle at Cherstone (2m 41 110yd, good to soft). Strong Patadin fell in novice chase at Kemplon (2m, good to soft); previously beat Near Feat 11x1 in novice hardle at Fortheal (2m 2 110yd, good to fam). FEEL THE POWER can boast the best form and will improve for his latest effort J,ZJ PETER O'SULLEVAN MOVICES HURDLE (£4,240; 2m 110vd) (15 runners)

BETTRIKE: 11-4 Mr Marihan, 4-1 Andarato, 9-2 Cherrymore, 7-1 Holly's Prode, 8-1 Shore Party, 12-1 Polyde 14-1 Ballel High, Starratot, 20-1 offers

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

2.55 FULKE WALWYN CHASE (£5,842: 2m 4f) (7 numbers)

BETTENS: 9-4 Feet The Power, 3-1 Strong Paladin, 4-1 Mouse Bird, 11-2 Youtetterbelievek, 7-1996: BUCKHOUISE BOY 6-11-0 C Maude (5-2 keV) N Twiston-Darkes 10 cm

1996: HOH WARRIOR 5-11-0 G Bradley (50-1) C Brooks 19 ran

Holly's Pride best Mr K's Winterblues 4951 in 6-namer novice chase at Trates (2m. good to soil). Cherrymore beat Country Beau 2961 in 12-numer novice hurdle at Newbury (2m. 110yd. good).

Andersto 2961 3rd of 11 to Dires in novice burdle at Wincarding (2m. good) with Cachaeld (Revels) besten a distance 9th. I Recall 9441 4th of 14 to Toticher In novice hundle at Chellenham (2m. 110yd. good). Mr Marksham 141 2nd of 7 to Circus Str in grade in novice hundle at Chellenham (2m. 110yd. good) with Pohydamas (levels) 43 and and Shore Party (levels) 104 4th. Bellara 177 4th of 19 to Siratore in marksham hundle at Worcester (2m. 4t. good).

#### SUMY BAY can continue his relentless progress to the top of the chasing tree MR MARKHAM can go one better than on his highly promising hundles debut 1.10 NORTHGATE TRUCK RENTAL NOVICES HURDLE 2.45 DOUGLAS SMITH MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE C4

#### NEWCASTLE

1.40 Speaker Weatherill 2.15 Master Beveled 12.10 Sad Mad Bad 12.40 Burnt Imp 2.45 River Unshion 3.15 Durano

12.10 NEWCASTLE BUILDING SOCIETY JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O. £2,841: 2m) (15 runners) 22.841\* 2m) (15 runners)

11 CORAL ISLAND 74 (D.F.S) (F Pates) J FizzGoald 11-8

13 SAD MAD BAD 16 (G) (P Sanit) Mrs. M Revoley 11-3

P Nivan.
BARNISURISH BDY 42F (N Boxie Developments LIG) T Eastern 10-12

R Guest
CITY HALL 45F (Mrs. R wp. Mrs. V West) Mrs. V Ward 10-12

D Gallagher

FREEDOM CHANCE 64F (Wetherby Roong) M Harramond 10-12

HICHMISTER 24 (Mrs. J Sheer) R Woodboorse 10-12

HICHMISTER 24 (Mrs. J Sheer) J Oliver 10-12

HICHMISTER 250F (Mrs. J Berry) J Oliver 10-12

N STILL HERE 250F (Mrs. J Berry) J Oliver 10-12

S NAME ASPECT 16 (A Black M W Exsterby 10-12

S SARKS CANCER 74 (Abrus Salbod Carrena Park) M W Exsterby 10-12

S Melense (7)

SPARKY 53F (Abrus Salbod Carrena Park) M W Exsterby 10-12

OLBAI KLYSSE (J Smeth) A Diction 10-7

R Supplie

R SBBOMLETTA 14 (Mrs. A Russell) J Coldie 10-7

R McGrath (3)

4-4 Sad Vad Pad, 7-2 Coral Estand. 5-1 Bernburgh Boy. 8-1 City Hall. 10-12 Sparky, 12-1 Fit

BETTING: 9-4 Sad Mad Bad, 7-2 Coral Estand, 5-1 Barmburgh Boy, 8-1 City Hall, 10-1 Sparity, 12-1 Freedo 1996. JACKSON PARK 10-12 R Dunwoody (2-1 Early T Easterby 24 ran

12.40 STANLEY RACING NOVICES CHASE

1205-3 RURNT RIP 13 (RF D.F.E.S) (N. Misson) G M. Moore 7-11-4 ... J Callagham 500:00- ELEMENT OF RISK 345 (Fundey Participate) W Commission 7-11-4 ... N. Smith 500:00- ELEMENT OF RISK 345 (Fundey Participate) 7-11-4 ... R. Samith 90:22-1/3 MINSTER GURN 20 (F) Miss P Hardey) M. M. Esstetty 5-11-4 ... P. Carborry 95 13:10-5 PHAR ELMO 13 (D.S.F. H. C. Rockoy) Lungo 6-11-4 ... R. Samith 91:33-440 (OUDVALL CROSSETT 5 (Mex. P. Wiscolland) E. Care 12-11-4 ... S. Taylox (S) 72

1996. SPARKY GAYLE 6-11-9 B Storey (4-6 tay) C Patter 10 ran



RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Folkestone (first race, 1.00), Kelso (12.50), Worcester (12.40) TUESDAY: Newcastle (12.20), Newton Abbot (1.00), Lingfield Park (AW, 12.40)

WEDNESDAY: Cattenck (12.50), Fontwell Park (1.10), Southwell (1.00) THURSDAY: Leicester (12.50), Windsor (1.00), Lingfield Park (AW, 1.10) FRIDAY: Exeter (12 50), Hereford (12 40), Sandown Park (1 00) SATURDAY: Chepstow (BBC, 1.15), Sandown Park (C4, 12.50), Towcester (12.45), Weitherby (12.40), Wolver-hampton (C4, AW, 1.05)

Flat meetings in bold

BETTRIG: 11-8 Old Husty Wing, 5-2 Birlottle, 7-2 For Cathol, 8-1 Cypress Avenue, 20-1 Gazekand, 25-1 July

1996. AGISTMENT 5-10-12 M Dayer (10-3) J Fib:Genati 25 rat 1.45 NORTH EAST AUTO TRADER HANDICAP CHASE

1 5/11PP EASBY JOKER 287 (BF.C.F.G.S.) (6 Orchard) 5 Kettlewett 9-12-0 ... P Neven
2 324111 SPEAKER WEATHERILL 11 (CD.F.G.) 0 Brennen 8-11-5 ... M. Brennen
3 12P4/2 SULPR STICK 388 (V.C.D.S.) (and blacker M. W. Exclusivy 10-10-13 ... R. Garrety
4 21112-3 NEDMADE SSTED 31 Fr. G.S.) (f. M. Dacher) M. S. Staikh 10-10-11 ... R. Gurst
5 1231U31 ROYAL VACATION 21 (C.D.F.S.) (G.Exhands) G.M. Moore 8-10-6 ... J. Calleghan
6 1114-F4 CATS RUM 13 (F.S.) (Mis. A Keyl.) Ulpson 9-10-0 ... R. Supple Long handicage Cals Run 9-12.

BETTING, 2-1 Kommore-Speed, 5-2 Speaker Weatherell, 11-2 Royal Vacation, 7-1 Eastly Jotes, Salver Steak, 8-1 Cats Run. 1996: TURIONG TRIX 9-11-13 A Maguire (7-4 fax) D Higholson 9 nm

FORM FOCUS

[action of the West 22 in 3 - numer handicap chase at Newcastle (2m 41, good). Speaker Weatherth beat Lord Of the West 22 in 3 - numer handicap chase at Newcastle (2m 41, good). By the Stick 100 3rd of 6 to Sounds Strong in handicap chase at Newcastle (2m 41, good to firm). Stiver Stick 100 3rd of 6 to Sounds Strong in handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 11, good), previously 211 4th of 7 to Toogcod To Be True in handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 11) populor (3m 11, good). However, speat 261 3rd of 4 to Potter's Bay in handicap chase at Chelsentram (2m 44 110) pood to firm), previously 181 2nd of 6 to Carboo Gold in handicap chase at Wetherbrampton (3m 11, good). Royard Vacation heat Fivelengh Builds 49 in 5-numer handicap chase at West All Memorial (3m 18, good to firm); previously 191 3rd of 4 to Popeshall in handicap chase at Ketso (2m 61 110vd, good to firm). Cata Rom 201 last of 4 to Him Cell Praise in handicap chase at Towester (3m 11, good). SPEAKER WEATHERILL is in great form and can continue the good work

| 186744 | PADRE MO 11 (CD.G.S) (Lady Litryd Weithert C Brooks 9-11-7 | R Guest 7/23000- MASTER BEVELED 119 (D.G.S) (Mrs. E Wildemck) P Sente 7-11-4 | G Torminy 22003- MASTER BEVELED 119 (D.G.S) (Masch) M Johnston 7-11-2 | D Gallagher 11-0164 MATIVE-DARRIO 31 (D.F.S) (Marmelly IP Mallins (tree 6-10-11 | Mrs. Waster 11-0164 MATIVE-DARRIO 31 (D.F.S) (Marmelly IP Mallins (tree 6-10-11 | Mrs. Waster 11-014-21 | WHIP HAND 8 (D.D.G.S) (D.Ay Lings Weithert 1 Footsmid 6-10-4 | P Carbotry 11-141-3 STASH THE CASH 21 (D.F.G.S) (G Sheet) M Hartmand 6-10-4 | R Gentity 0-45330 MCM WRITAGE 13 (D.G.S) (A Masse) M Chapman 6-10-4 | W Woodington 20-314 FLYNIG EAGLE 7 (D.F.G.) (T Mayouch R Sempson 6-10-4 | R Seppte

2.15 NEWCASTLE BUILDING SOCIETY

1996: SPACE TRUCKER 5-10-4 J Sound (5-2) Mrs J Hardington (Ins) 8 nan 

Long handkap: Man Vintage 9-72, Flying Eagle 9-6
BETTRIG: 15-8 White Hand, 9-2 Stath The Cash, 5-1 Star Rage Mative-Davig, 7-1 Padre Man 12-1 Master
Beveled, Flying Eagle, 25-1 Man Vintage

WHIP HAND is progressing well and could be lemently treated

1996: EASBY JOKER 8-12-0 P Nives (4-1) S Kettlewell 10 ran

FORM POGSS

Tweleigh Builds %1 2nd of 5 to Royal Vacation in handicap classe

The Pogs of RIVER UNSHION has scope and this is not the strongest race

3.15 CHISHOLM BOOKMAKERS HANDRCAP HURDLE (£3,388: 2m) (7 runners) 

TORM FOCUS

Durano unsealed rider in novice clase at Morket Rasen (2m 44, 9000), prevously novice clase at Bangor (2m 31 110yd, good) good), prevously novice clases at Bangor (2m 31 110yd, good) Sea Victor 111 (4th of 7 to Star Market in handicap hundle 0-130 at Warnetk (2m 31, good) prevously 801 26th of 28 to Big Strand in handicap hundle 0-130 at Haydock (2m 31, good) prevously 33 3rd of 8 to Torover in handicap hundle 0-120 at Haydock (2m, good) prevously 71 2nd of 5 to Best QI Alt to handicap hundle 0-125 at Newcestin (2m 11, good) prevously 71 2nd of 5 to Best QI Alt to handicap hundle 0-125 at Newcestin (2m, good) prevously 1911 2nd of 5 to Best QI Alt to handicap hundle 0-125 at Newcestin (2m, good) prevously 1911 2nd of 5 to Gryourown in handicap hundle 0-100 at Herham (2m, good) in hundle 2nd 1911 at Queen (2m 31 110yd) good) prevously now heap cits 0-95 at Herham (2m 110yd, good to firm). Double Agent Peacles a distance 9th of 13 to Toty Brown in handicap hundle 0-115 at Mariet Rasen (2m 51 110yd, good).

Distance of the prevously now heap cits 0-95 at Herham (2m 110yd, good to firm). Double Agent beaten a distance 9th of 13 to Toty Brown in handicap hundle 0-115 at Mariet Rasen (2m 51 110yd, good).

Distance of the prevously now heap cits 0-95 at Herham (2m 110yd, good) beat Haydock (2m, good).

Distance of the prevously now heap cits 0-95 at Herham (2m 110yd, good) beat Haydock (2m, good). DURANO was a progressive hundler last season and returns to tember well breated

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# Antapoura look good value to Final furlong go one better for a true thoroughbred

Peter O'Sullevan, racing commentator supreme, will

lay down his microphone for the last time today

eople always marvel at the sheer professionalism of Sir Peter O'Sullevan. I can't for the life of me think why. Now it happens that, for reasons best known to itself, The Times has asked me to review a book called Pirelli Calendar Classics. It is on the floor as I write. I have not the slightest doubt that Kate Moss and Naomi Campbell have the quality of professionalism in overplus. But it is not the first thing that

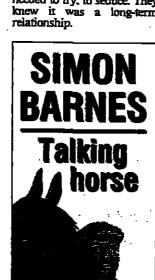
strikes you. O Sullevan calls his last race at Newbury this afternoon. He will not make any jokes. He will not make any errors. He will not add any verbal colour at all, but once he has gone, it will seem as if all BBC racing is in monochrome.

He is now in his eightieth year. He has broadcast, on radio or television, on 50 Grand Nationals, 50 Royal Ascots, 50 Goodwoods: , nice round figures. And something will go out of racing, out of sport, out of popular culture, with this stepping-down.

O'Sullevan represents a ge nus heading for extinction. He is the voice of his sport. To hear such a voice is (or was) to know exactly where you are, and why. Other members of this genus include John Arlott, in cricket, Dan Maskell, in tennis, Eddie Waring, in rug-by league. Others, still living but no longer active, include David Coleman, in track and field, and, perhaps. Kenneth

Wolstenholme in football. I doubt if the genus will survive much longer. Modern

televised sport - well, there is just so damn much of it, so many competing channels, so many voices clamouring for our attention. The old voices knew they had our attention all along. They never tried, nor needed to try, to seduce. They knew it was a long-term



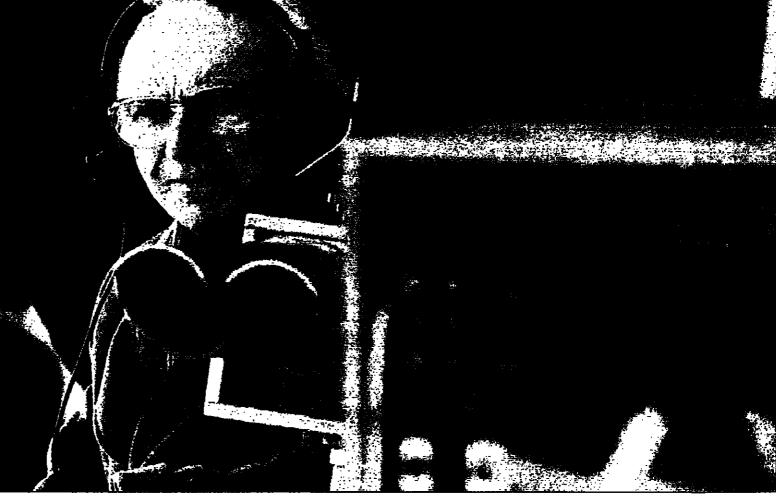
O'Sullevan steps down in this year of, as it were, the golden wedding between himself and the viewer and listener. And people will pay due respect to his professionalism. to his ability to pull off the difficult feat of reading a race, remembering all the jockeys' colours and all the names of

It is indeed jolly difficult, and I couldn't begin to do it, but a lot of people can. And professionalism isn't exactly unique to O'Sullevan. Professionalism is a minimum expectation. I expect most of us are decent professionals in our way: professionalism is really only absence of vice.

No, the point about O'Sullevan is not his professionalism. It is simply this: love. The reason he possessed the ability to call every race, from the humblest seller to the Grand National, as if it were a matter of all-absorbing interest, was because it was a matter of all-absorbing inter-

est. And you can't fake that. Every race really is, for the minutes of its running, a matter of fascination. He simply cannot help that quiet relish that is always in his voice as they come under starter's orders, simply cannot help the rise in pitch as the favourite takes it up with a hundred yards to go.

"I'm mad about it," O'Sullevan said. "I'm mad about the principal players. And although I'm a punter. the horses always come first." Every single race is a matter of earth-shattering importance
— at least, it is for some of his audience. Some of these will lose money and a few will win. O'Sullevan knows — knows from hard-won experience that it matters. "It's all very well for Murray Walker to make cracks and gaffes," O'Sullevan said. "The motorracing audience doesn't have a pecuniary involvement." He



O'Sullevan calling the horses from the BBC position at Aintree, where he has seen some of his sport's most dramatic moments unfold

has the respect for a punter. that you can only really find in

A race-reader must be something of the automaton. I was always convinced that the Blower's announcements, before the days of betting-shop television, were made by a Dalek. It was O'Sullevan's triumph to combine such impersonal efficiency with the warmth of an all-too-human punter.

In truth, the myth of O'Sullevan as the world's most fearless punter is somewhat off the pace. "I don't want to sound clever. I've always bet far too much, far more than I should." But he sees himself as a cautious punter — and certainly not a gambler, who must bet on

O'Sullevan relishes best the ante-post bet, the taste of the good thing, spotted in humble surroundings, that will soar to ever-greater heights. Or not, of course. The romance of the business has never left him. And he has, times without number, commented with his usual impassioned accuracy on races that have carried his money to triumph and disaster, and his voice, always

He managed that, even when he owned the winner himself. And he would mutter, almost swallow the line: Attivo, owned by Peter O'Sullevan, trained by ... I reminded him of the glorious Michael Bentine record of the football announcer winning

warm, always rising, treating

the two imposters just the

the pools and he chuckled he is one of the few men who can chuckle - for a long time in relish of all the terrible things he didn't do when Attivo, when Be Friendly, strutted their stuff.

n fact, half the tape of our meeting is about Attivo. Which is not really much . use to anybody. I have a long series of stories about a terrific horse that was greatly loved. It was, I suppose, rather unprofessional of me to let him run on about how he bought the dam and bred the colt. "And they said you've got a right little corker here and, if he only grows a little, you'll be able to run him at the White

But the fact is, such horsey tales are the breath of life to those who love talking horse.
And, contrary to popular wiswarmth of love will still sound warmth of love will still sound dom, hearing them is almost in his voice. as good as telling them. Like He does not plan to shut up love stories, every horsey tale completely. He will continue is the same, and every one is his campaign for something

remembers all those different device that does not damage coloured shirts: the love story the animals. He will also of O'Sullevan and Attivo is campaign against the live what counts. export of horses. Three cheers "And he won the Daily from this column for both Express Triumph Hurdle, those things. imagine that, a race sponsored The pattern runs straight by the newspaper I worked for, and having to make that rather narcissistic announcement at the end." And he still called every horse home from first to last, without going

and true, you see. Mad about it. Mad about the game. Above all, mad about horses. From the first pony, best and only friend of an only child, to every horse that has ever run under his assessing eye, he has been mad about them all. Never mind the professionalism. In the end, it is only love that

called the air-cushion whip, a

### **Dublin Flyer's lonely return**

IT IS not the way he should be remembered. The Newbury crowd had turned their to the winner's enclosure animated by the drama they had witnessed in the closing

stages of the Jacky Upton

Handicap Chase yesterday. Challenger Du Luc had confirmed himself fearful of open spaces, his resolve failing the moment he took charge from a labouring Callisoe Bay; his rival had retrieved the lead on the post. But if Challenger Du Luc was glad of the company, rarely can Dublin Flyer have been

so lonely. The darling of so many greater occasions, Dublin Flyer had - for the third race in succession - looked a shadow of old. Few steeplechasers in recent years have tackled adversity with such enthusiasm, whether the fences them-

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

(24,257: 2m) (19 runners)

12.30 Albaha, 1.00 Northern Saddler, 1.30 Thrower. 2.00 Over The Deel, 2.30 Soldier Mak, 3.00 Kadastrof, 3.30 Timely Magic.

| 1.57: 271) (19 TURINETS) | 1.57: 271) (19 TURINETS) | 1.53: 1.51

3-1 Fill The Bib. 4-1 Str Limitatiot, 5-1 Gipsy Geol. 6-1 Royal Scimitar, 7-1 Hadronia Chross, 6-1 Albaka, 10-1 What A Fiss, 20-1 others.

1 43-3 HORTHERN SADOLER 19 (D.F.B.S) R Hodges 10-11-10

2 2111 NO LIGHT 35 (D.F.G.S) A Tornell 10-11-8 L. Harry 3 11-7 TROERROOK 17 (D.G) K Bulley 7-10-10 MF R Walkey 5 4 551 WESHERY 521 (D.G) MSA Stockel 8-10-0 R Thomson 5 4-5 Telebrook 9-4 Ho Light 9-2 Monthem Saddler, 20-1 Weshelby,

1.30 WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

1 15-3 STAR SECTION 12 (S) J Macho 6-11-11 ... E Hesband (3), 2 11:31 THROWER 10 (6) S Brodstar 6-11-8 ... S Wysne 3 13-6 SPLBGD THYME 13 (85.5) 1 Case, 5-11-1 ... W Microson 2 -113 PPEN INSS 2 (6) 6 Hesband 5-10-8 ... A Thomson 5 3-11 IOSY SROWN 16 (6) D Microson 4-10-6 ... R Thomson (3)

1 335- FILL OF OM'TS 226 (20,5) Mars H Anglet 11-12-8 R Theories (3)
2 8-42 CHARCH LAW 20 (6,5) Mars L Toylor 10-11-3 R Bellumy
3 35- OMER THE DEEL 606 OLY 6,5 9 Morenty 11-11-4 A Theories
4 411- REPPAREZ 200 DLE) R Geneter 7-11-6 W Marston
5 72-3 CREDOM TO (D.F.G.S.) 5 Morentum B-10-7 S Michell
6 44-5 HEL TREK 15 (D.S.) 8 Schop 11-10-4 L Marsey

5-2 Phoppings, 11-4 Caption, 7-2 Church Lim, 4-1 Fall Of Dats, 10-1 others.

2-1 Temmer 3-1 Penings, Toby Bones, 5-1 Star Selection, B-1 Splendid Thyde:

2.00 STAMINA TEST HANDICAP CHASE -

HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,812: 2m 3f) (5)

(£5,030: 3m 2f) (6)

12.30 QUINTON NOVICES HURDLE

By Chris McGrath

selves, rival horses or the unyielding Cheltenham Hill. Now Brendan Powell, a vital backs to the course, their walk ingredient to their stirring partnership, cantered past the winning post, totally unher-alded, having pulled up leaving the back straight.

While Dublin Flyer runs in the colours of John Sumner, racegoers have long felt themselves the horse's true owners. Some had little encouragement to offer them, though he did not formally dismiss the chances of the 11-year-old racing again.

"I wouldn't say that just yet," the disappointed owner said. "The last thing we want to see is this happening every time. Brendan said he felt the old buzz going down, but when the tape went up, he felt like a drunk.Sumner added: "We're going to have him scoped, look at his back, do everything we possibly can -

let's just hope we can find something."
Indomitable gameness hav-

ing been Dublin Flyers hallmark, it is ironic that the race itself should be decided by the irresolution of Challenger Du Luc. Nor could that horse have done less credit to the determination that defines so many Martin Pipe horses.

Their attitude mirrors precisely that of their trainer and this was confirmed by Rainwatch's success in the opening Freshman's Juvenile Novices' Hurdle, which brought up the fastest century in a season - breaking another of his own records, set on December 13 last year.

"They've been flying," Pipe said. "It really is incredible. I just set out to win races, not to beat records. We can't keep it up forever, but we'll keep trying." Not so, one fears. Dublin Flyer.

2.30 WARWICK LINIVERSITY HANDICAP HURDLE

(22,320: 2m) (13)

1 130- SBERMAN MYSTIC 2SF (0,5) P Murphy 4-11-10 \_\_A Thombon (3)
2 2111 NOBLE TOM 3 (0,5) P Eccles 5-11-5 \_\_\_\_R Thombon (3)
3 3353 PAR OF JACKS 16 (0,5) P Hobbs 7-11-5 \_Mr R Wolger (7)
4 -232 SOLDLEN MAX 22 J Macked 4-11-5 \_\_\_E Thombon (3)
5 314- ETHANISTO 450 (8,8F.5) J Callison 6-11-4 \_\_\_X Alxporu (5)
6 35F1 GRAY PASTEL 25 (00,9) M Ppo 3-11-3 \_\_\_\_ 8 Sopple (3)
7 PSOF MARSAYAS 10 (F.5) F Jordan 4-11-2 \_\_\_\_ D Byrne
8 -001 SCORET GET 14 (0,0) Max J Phrena 4-11-1 \_\_\_\_ D Byrne
10 -363 MYSTIC HILL 19 (7) R Frost 6-11-1 \_\_\_\_\_ C Wold (3)
10 -363 MYSTIC HILL 19 (7) R Frost 6-11-1 \_\_\_\_\_ D Wheston
11 06-4 SLAZE OF SOMG 18 D Whethe 5-10-11 \_\_\_\_\_ W Marston
12 0601 GHILLY LAD 62 (7) Mrs 11 Middley 5-10-0 Mr A Charles-Loose
13 P-00 WOODLANDS LAD 100 B P Protriand 5-10-0 \_\_\_\_R Bellacty
5-2 Gray Protail 11-2 Noble Tour, 6-1 Scort GRI, 8-1 Sherisin Mysici, 10-1 Pair

5-2 Gray Pestel, 11-2 Noble Toor, 6-1 Secret GIL, 8-1 Sibertan Myssic, 10-1 Pair Ol Jacks, Soldfer Mair, Starts Tiger, Mystic Hill, 12-1 others.

1 4-21 KADASTROF 10 (D.S.S) R Dicker 7-11-9 — A Thorston
2 164- JOHN DRAMM 193 (BF.D.F.G.S) P R Webber 6-11-3 S McNell
3 33-D MR POPPLETON 175 R Brotheston 6-11-3 — L Harvey
4 3-F5 SMADLENGK 7 (D.F.) Berry 5-11-3 — D Parise
5 GPQ/ STAURCH FREND 588 (D.G.S) M Tomplins 9-11-3

10-11 Karlestrof, 3-1 Stausch Friend, 5-1 John Drumos, 7-1 Smolensk, 20-1 Mr

3.30 NORTON LINDSEY STANDARD NATIONAL

15-8 Eably's Son, 5-1 Phresman Bay, 6-1 Caldernus, 7-1 Timely Magic, 10-1 Royal Spark, 12-1 Rescente, 14-1 Good View 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRABBERS: S Brodishaw, 3 winners from 10 zonners, 30,0%; M Plan, 29 kom 118, 24,6%; N Speake, 10 knon 41, 24,4%; G Habbard, 3 boom 13, 22,1%, O Michobard, 25 knom 13, 22,1%, Mirs J Pikraen, 15 knon 72, 20,5%; P Webber, 4 knon 23, 17,4%.

JOCKEYS: A Themino, 6 winners from 48 rides, 12.5%; W Marsion, 11 from 91, 12.1%; R Massey, 3 from 25, 12.0%. Only qualifiers.

Blinkered first time

HAYDOCK PARK: 3.10 The Searct Gray, NEWCASTLE: 3.15 Sea Victor WARMICK: 12.30 Bronhellow, WOLVERHAMPTON: 9.00 Laramente, Summerseat, 9.30 Stateyork.

3.00 TOWER HOVICES CHASE

HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,035: 2m) (16)

(£3,678: 2m) (5)

#### **HAYDOCK**

THUNDERER 1.05 Lansdowne, 1.40 Ballyline, 2.10 Miss Diskin, 2.40 Native Shore, 3.10 Space Trucker, 3.45 Deano's Beano,

#### .05 NORTHERN CLAIMING HURDLE (£2,120: 2m 4f) (11 runners)

5-2, Totally Yours, 3-1 Lansdowne, 5-1 Statum, 8-1 Manne Field, 10-1 Wa Fall-Rad Fancy, 12-1 Cry Baby, 14-1 others.

#### 1.40 LADBROKE FREEPHONE HANDICAP CHASE (£2,868; 2m 4l) (5)

1 3-US EARLY DRINGER 21 (8.5) 0 Sherwood 9-11-10 J A McCardby 2 4-F1 BALLYLNE 17 (6.5) W Kemp 6-11-9 R Johnson 3 50F1 MR RUGGE 7 (0.5,6.5) M Soversky 10-10-12 M H Manglann (5) 4 35-2 K00'S PROMSE 21 (6.6) C Paptan 6-10-10. Mr O McPlanl (7) 5 43P ANOTHER COURSE 12 (0.6,5) C Mans 9-10-0 Miss S Barractough 7-4 Koo's Promise, 3-1 Ballyline, Early Driefer, 5-1 Mr Futige, 6-1 Another Course

#### 2.10 TIM MOLONY HANDICAP CHASE (£10,124: 3m 4l 110yd) (7)

11-4 Him Ol Preise, 7-2 Deoper Baby, Dom Samouras, 9-2 Mics Diskin, 7-1 Sister Stephania, 12-1 Pink Big, 16-7 Professor Strong

#### 2.40 victor novices hurdle

#### 3.10 MAKERFIELD NOVICES CHASE

3,371: 2(n) (6)

1 49/5 OUR MAIN MAN 12F (S) R Whitzier 7-11-0 . . . . . D Bendley
2 12-P ROBINS PRIDE 11 (0.6.5) C Popham 7-11-0 . . . . T Descombe
3 -04U SPACE TRUCKER 13 (8F.D.F.G.S) Mrs. J Harrington (vr.) 6-11-0
J R Kawanagh (£3,371: 2m) (6) 4 2-FP THE SECRET GREY 20 (B) D McCan 6-11-0 ... T. Mr C Bonner (3) 5 2-3P UK HYSERIE 199 (D,F) M Hassmand 7-11-0 Mr C Bonner (3) 6 2-32 ZABADI 11 (D,G,S) D Nicholson 5-11-0 ....... R Johnson 1-2 Space Trucker, 5-2 Zaharii. 16-1 Robios Pride. 20-1 others

#### 3.45 HAYDOCK GOLD CARD HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier: £4,884: 2m 6f) (11)

(ABBITTEP: 24,884: 27T bf) (11)

1 25-5 ALLEGATION 27 (V.C.D.G.S) M Pipe 7-11-10 . C Derham (7)

2 332- MAJOR BELL 281 (D.F.G.S.) A Whiless 9-10-12 C McCormack (7)

3 21-5 COURBARE, 18 (BF.D.F.G.) M Pipe 5-10-9 ... J Hust (7)

4 213- MBGTARORE THORES 259 (6) Ms. J Paran 5-10-5 ... D Leaby

5 446- DUTSET 23F (C.D.F.G.S) M Hammond 7-10-3 ... Mr C Bonner (3)

6 F-S3 RALAMAN 13 (6.5) D Bondole 5-10-7 ... Sopple Mitchell (5)

7 (95-1 DEARD'S SEGNOT 1 (D.S.) M Pipe 5-10-1 ... C ABande

8 2126 CASTLE SECRET 15F (D.F.G.S.) D Burchell 11-10-0 ... J Burchell

9 /8-6 MASSLAN 14 (F.S.) J J O'Nell' 7-10-9 ... L Copper (7)

10 10-0 SLEEPY RIVER 16 (6.5) J J O'Nell' 6-10-0 ... A Rocke

11 33-6 MENSHAMAR 13 (6.5) J Langu 3-10-0 ... DOWNTOL 15-8 Deano's Beeno, 5-1 Meromore Towers, 7-1 Mayor Bell, Oucset. 8-1 Balanak. 10-1 Coortanil, 12-1 Allegation, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS: J FitzGerald, 13 winners from 51 romers, 25.5%, G Richerds, 26 from 106, 24 5%, D Micholson, 12 from 51, 23.5%, M Pipe, 31 from 137, 22.6%, S Brookshaw, 3 from 14, 21 4%, Mrs. J Pimman, 5 from 25, 20.0%

#### WOLVERHAMPTON

7,00 Rubamma, 7,30 Shakivr. 8.00 Girl Of Mi

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

#### 7.00 mulgrave maden stakes (2-Y-0: £2.788; 1m 100vd) (10 runners)

-7-O: £2,788: 1mt 10Uy() (10 runners)

1 6000 GERUS 40 S Dow 9-0 P Dos (7) 8

2 1002 GRALMAND 54 (87) N Limoden 9-0 S Werkworks 2

3 HANDMAN HGRWAY M Torophics 9-0 Dilgos 10

4 0-43 R BABAMA 16 687 P Wakeys 9-0 P Perham 4

5 00 SECRECY 32 P Cole 9-0 Deed O'Nell (7) 8

5 0 SSERT GF LOWE 32 M Johnston 9-0 Deed O'Nell (7) 8

6 0 SSERT GF LOWE 32 M Johnston 8-9 Dosn McKeyson 7

7 5 FERSHANA MA 32 S C Wilkens 8-9 Dosn McKeyson 7

8 4435 MARKESHA 38 M Johnston 8-9 Dosn McKeyson 7

9 0 SE'S A GEN 21 Ms N Maccally 8-9 P McCalle (3) 8

10 00 SCAP STONE 18 A Bailey 8-9 K Hodgson 63 11-4 Patterama, 4-1 Guimano, Marretsa, 7-1 Ferghara Ma, Secrety, 10-1 others.

# TFLAT RACE (£1,035; 2m) (16) 5-00 ARDY CLYPE 20 A Bathy 4-11-4. T Statista (7) 0 BLY MY PLY 16 H Webb 4-11-4. D J Researagia (5) 4 CALDARRIE 30 Mts M Jones 5-11-4. M Dunne (5) EDDY'S SON D McMostos 5-11-4. R Theories (3) 4-54 DIABRAME 20 Mts M Jones 5-11-4. R Theories (3) 4-54 DIABRAME 21 K Bestop 4-11-4. R Theories (3) 4-55 DIABRAME 21 K Bestop 4-11-4. S G Supple (5) BETLING OF THE MAC M R Bostey 5-11-4. L Sufform (7) RHOSMESER BAY MISS H KINGH 4-11-4. L Sufform (7) RHOSMESER BAY MISS H KINGH 4-11-4. L Sufform (7) RHOSMESER BAY MISS H KINGH 5-11-4. L R WINGE (7) RHOYAL SPARK P HORDS 5-11-4. L R WINGE (7) TARA-BROGAN I WINGERS 4-11-4. P HARDS (3) 0 CATCH THE ACTUM 77 M R Bustey 4-10-13. X Alterory (5) MY REESO MOREY A Research 4-10-13. X Alterory (5) WOOLLY SCALD J Proteons 5-10-13. O Burrows (5) Field's Son 5-14 Research 4-10-13. A Sales (5) WOOLLY SCALD J Proteons 5-10-13. O Burrows (5) 7.30 FROST CLAUMING STAKES

#### 8.00 CLAIRE COURT FILLIES HANDICAP

LC\_UGS. 71) (12)

1 0210 PHDGHD PRINCESS 8 8 McMahanon 3-9-12 S Righton (7) 11

2 8002 CORRIGHE OLEST 12 (0.F.6.S) M Channon 4-9-6 A Editory (7) 12

3 3342 MOLLY MUSCE 5 6 Margaran 3-9-4 Bean 1-9-6 Dates 1 Corriging 1 Corr 3-1 Correctin Guest, Healthyards Lady, 5-1 Molify Music, 8-1 Phoenix Princess, 10-1 Rever Eachts, 12-1 Earl of My Dreams, 14-1 others.

#### 8.30 BARTLETT HANDICAP.

11 0144 CHARRIWOOD JACK 140 (BF.P) I Computed Richards (7) 8
11 0144 CHARRIWOOD JACK 140 (BF.P) I Computed 48-9 D Stages 10
12 1040 REX MUNION 15 (CD.P) P Exart 58-9 D Wright 6
3-1 Ruber A Prince, 7-2 Filial, 3-1 Endated, 88-9 Prince Dansing, Slow Forum, Charriwood Jack, 14-1 Alcabib, 16-1 others.

#### 9.00 CHARLESTON MANOR SELLING STAKES (2-Y-0: £1,738: 7f) (10)

1 0000 JOCKWELER 5 D Chap 2 0000 LARAMANA 11 (V) F T G Nat sughin 6

miley 8-12 .... D Eiggs 1

1-12 .... Dean McReown 9

1-7 ... R Pertaen 7

1-7 ... K Hodgson 5

1-7 ... H Carisle 10

#### 9.30 HEENS HANDICAP (£2,085: 51) (13)

The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, is Tom Whitelaw, of Bearsden in Scotland

#### COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAMERS: R Ingram. 8 wanters from 26 namers, 30 Sts. 1. Montages Hall, 4 from 16, 25 OS., Mrs. M Reveloy, 13 from 55, 23 Sts., Sr. M Prescott, 25 from 108, 23.1%, M Johnston, 53 from 230, 23.0%. JOCKEYS: 14 Sectional: 5 witness from 25 rules, 20.0°2, 6 Faulines, 6 from 33, 18.2%; 6 Dublield, 27 from 178, 15.2%, P McCabe, 7 from 51, 11.5%, S Whitmorth, 16 from 153, 10.5%.

#### YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

#### Newbury

y increasy 1.00 (2m 110yd hole) 1, RAINWATCH (A P McCoy, 2-5 (av); 2, Kilbride Lad (R Johnson, 7-2), 3, Borazon (C Llewellyn, 25-1), ALSO RAN: 15 Silema Creek (Bin), 20 Hadrid (Sth), Junction City (pu), 25, Jeth Orus 33 Bezonie Buck (m); 50 Cherokae (pu), 33 reggles buck (pu), 30 Cherokee Fight (pu), Marach, Twin Time (pu), 66 Aspecto Lad (pu), The Negotustor (4th), 100 Tyrolean Dancer (pu), 14 ran. 81, 14 151, 81, 81, M Pipe at Weltington Tote: £1.60; £1.20, £1.60, £3.40 DF £2.20. Trio: £13.60, CSF £1.82

=24.00. CSF £12.97 Indext. £69.04.
2.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, CALLISOE BAY IJ A McCarthy, 9-41, 2, Challenger Du Luc (A P McCoy, evers lav), 3, Gales Cavalier (R Dunwoody, 5-1), ALSO RAN 7 Dublin Flyer (pu), 4 ran NR Strong Medicine Hd, dist. O Sherwood at Upper Lambourn. Tote £3.50 DF £1.90 CSF £4.75.

22.50. Trip C4.40. CSF. 57.09.
1.50 (3m 110yd ch) 1, FOREST IVORY /A
Maguire, 1-4 fevi; 2, Cash Flow (P
Carberry, 12-1), 3, Selatan (G Upton,
9-2) ALSO RAN 50 Bourbon County
(pu), 100 Weekend Worker (pu) 5 ran
NR: Ah Stush Dist, 81 D Nicht-ton at
Temple Guting, Tote 57.20, 51 10,
51.30 DF: 52.20 CSF 53.81

E1 30 DF- 62.20 CSF- 63.81
2.20 (2m. 1/l holle) 1, RIVERBANK ROSE
(G. Tormey, 8-1), 2, Caracol (T. Dascombe, 7-2), 3, Brumon (S. Wynne, 14-1), ALSO, RAN, 7-4 fav. Country Minstrel, 6 Glowing Path (5th), 10 Meg & Memory (4th), 12 Ho-Joe (pu), 16 United Front (6th), 8 ran, 9, 24, 101, 101, 201, W. Clay at Futtord, Tote 67.00, £1 60, £1 80, £2 50, DF, £19 00, CSF- £32.85, Tincssf- 2351 44.

CSF £56.46 Tricast £114.13
3.50 [2m II httle) 1, LINE OF CONQUEST (T Dascombe, 7-1), 2, Bombadil
(A Thomton, 7-1); 3, Builder Boy (S
Wynrie, 12-1) ALSO RAN, 3 tav
Woodfield Vison (Sh), 4 Racketball (pu),
11-2 King Of Thewes (f), 10 Katsar (4th),
12 Kaladross (pu), 50 Arldow King (pu),
Incey Wincey (pu), Ronnies Wedding, 68
Althrey Captain (6th), 12 ran NR: Ausijur,
291, 51, dist, 51, 91, R Hodges at Somerion
Tote, £4.20, £1.90, £2.60, £2.50, DF
£35.40, Tine: £90.30 CSF £49.38

Going: standard 12.10 (7f) 1. Mustang (Dale Gibson, 7-1); 2. Trojan Hero (3-1 fav), 3, Resist The Force (6-1), 13 ren %I, 41 C. Thombon, Tote: 63-20; £1-90, £2-30, £1-90. DF £11.40. Trib: £25.70. CSF £24.39 Tricast £131.03

12.40 (7) 1, Lift The Offer (P Dobbs, 4-9 tavi: 2. Out Life Magic (16-1); 3, Chi-Lin (16-1): 10 ran %, 3 %, R Hannon Tote: 61 40, 6: 10, 62 60, 62 80, DF: 67.80 Tho £45 30, CSF 610 62.

1.10 (5f) 1. Classy Cleo (A McCarthy, 4-1), 2. Sun Dancing (7-2 g-law), 3. Private Seal (14-1). Happy Days Again 7-2 g-law, 9 ran NR Carol Singer, 134, 31. P Evans Tote: £330, £170, £160, £2.60 DF, £6 60. Tho: £46.30, CSF £16.39, Tricast £159.89

1.40 (1m 2) 1. Chairmans Choice (W Ryan. 11-2), 2. Without Friends (9-1), 3. Father Dan (5-2 lav) 14 ran. 6, 1% A Janys Tote 97-20, 52 60, 64, 10, 51 40, DF £38.20 Trio \$53.40, CSF, £50 31.

2.10 (67 1, Apollo Red (Caroly Morris, 10-1) 2. Speedy Classic (7-1): 3, Solssor Ridge (9-1) Fobo Margic 7-2 lav 13 ran NR: Lord Sky Hd. 13:L G L Moore. Tote: 93 90, 92 30, 93 00, 93 10 DF: \$19 00 Tno \$170 70 CSF: \$25 93 Tricast-\$461 40

Quadpot: £379.30.

Going: standard

Lingfield Park

Michael Bentine. He has a

runner, Sounds Fyne, at

Newbury this afternoon: even

if it wins, and I hope it does,

unique. Never mind how he

2.50 (2m 4/110yd cn) 1, SISTER ROSZA (J Magee, 3-1). 2, Teinein (A Thomton, 6-4 tavi; 3. Even Blue (S Wyme, 7-2) ALSO RAN 7-2 Ctare Man (4th) 4 ran NR Mister Drum. The Carting Rus. 15, 111, 65st Mrs S Lemyma at Lincoln. Tote 55 D DF: \$3.20, CSF \$7.41. SS 50 DF £3.20, CSF £7.41,
3.20 (2m 41 10yd ch) 1, THE NEXT
WALTZ (R Supple, 4-1), 2, Forrfa Rosie
Dawn (S Kelly, 16-1), 3, Luke Warm (A
Maguire, 5-4 fav) ALSO RAN, 11-2 The
Bard O'Donnell (6th), 13-2 Can't Say (4th),
12 Market Mayhern, 16 Desert Brave, 33
Sense O'Value (5th), Sophes Dream, 40
Charlatitivola, 10 ran NR, Pepilist, 41, 41,
sh hd, dist, 191 L Lungo at
Camutherstown Tote £5.70; £2.00,
£2.70, £1.10 DF, £27.70 Trio, £39.20,
£3.50 [2m 11 hdias), 1, EINE OF CON-

1.30 (2m ch) 1, STRONG CHAIRMAN (T J Murphy, 11-10 lev). 2, Yahvni (M A Fitzgerald, 6-5) ALSO RAN. 7 Inole Watching (pu) 3 ran NR. Jalcanto. 13. P Nicholis al Shepton Mailet. Tole: £1.70 DF £1.30. CSF £2.51

DF \$7.30, CSF \$251
2.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, STORMYFAIR-WEATHER (M A Fitzgerald, 3-1 g-fav1, 2, Ripertus (J A McCarthy, 4-1); 3, Mister Rim (C Llewellyn, 8-1) ALSO RAN: 3-1 g-fav1 (3ggins (8th), 9 Tickerty's Girl (5th), 10 Cition Beat, Crandon Boulevard (4th), 7 ran, NR Nahraweti, Noble Colours, 6f, 8f, nk, 131, 2f N Henderson at Lamboum Tote; \$3.30, \$2.10, \$2.20 DF \$9.20 Trio \$24.60. CSF \$12.91 Tircast, \$59.04. A

3.00 (2m 5h che) 1, WELSH SILK (Sophie Mitchell, 11-4); 2, Stormy Session (J Goldstein, 10-1); 3, Raffies Rocaster (R Thomton, 15-8 lav), ALSO RAN; 6 Freeline Fontaine (4th), 15-2 Magic Combination (pu), 10 Brassis Hill (5th) 12 Dannicus (pu), 16 Gamay (pu) 20 Count Master (pu), 33 Barely Black (pu) 10 ran Nv, 7t, dist, 291 D Gandotto al Wanlage Tole; 23-40; E1-50, C2-40, E1-20, DF 225-50 Tro: £12-30, CSF £30-66 Tricast £61-23

Incase 561 23
3.30 (3m 110yd hdie) 1, JET BOYS (A P McCoy, 13-8 fav), 2, Old Rouvel (D Gallagher, 4-1); 3, The Full Monty (G Bradley, 7-2) ALSO RAN 13-2 What's The Buzz (5th), 15-2 Esperanza N (pu), 12 Riot Leader (4th), 50 Red River (pu), 66 Dutch (pu) 8 ran, 111, 181, 141, dist Mrs J witnen at Uncer Lambourn Tote: 25 50:

Jacknot: £332.70. Quadpot: £8.10. Bangor

Going: soft, heavy in places (chase course); good to soft (hurdies) course); good to soit (frurdies)
1.20 (2m 1/1 hole) 1. FORZAIR (P. Carberry, 5-1), 2. Once More For Luck (P. Niven, 1-2 lavi; 3. Thomas Crown (J. Lawrence, 10-1). ALSO RAN-16 Admiral's Guest (6in), 20 Haydown (5in), Serape (4in), 33 Oualtair Beauty, 50 Albert The Ioon, Jemakca Brodge, Keniworth Dencer, Single Mari (pu) 11 ran. 2, 171, 291, 1/21, 2°1 J. O'Nellt al Pennith Tote, 24 70; 51.10, 51.20, 52.50 DF. 52.50. Trio 54 40. CSF. 57.09.

240 (7t) 1. Charchill's Shadow (C Lowther, 4-1). 2. Badmath (12-1); 3. Witchfinder (11-4 lav) 12 ran 21, 141 B Pearce, Tole, £7 80, £2 10, £4 90, £2 00, DF £90 20 Tho £135 80, CSF £51.27 Throast, £140 03 3.10 (1m 2) 1, Mystagogue (P Dobbs, 7-2), 2, Zada (5-1), 3, Casino Ace (6-11 lav) 7 ran, NR Younico, 6, 3) R Hannon, Tote 12 70, 11-40, 13.00 DF 114.50 CSF 121 96. CSF 521 98.
3.40 (1m 40) 1, Another Monik (Mr R Guest, 6-4 lav). 2, Vrennan (14-1), 3, Don't Drop Bombs (9-1), 4, Danka (25-1), 17 ran NR: Precous Wonder 29-1, 21 R hygram. Toter 52 10; 51 10, 65 30, 51 90, 54 30. DF: 524 70. Tho 538.70 CSF 524.99 Tricast, 5166.59.
Psaceout 527 30

Placepot £37.30. Quadrot \$20,30. ☐ Sister Rosza, backed from 7-1 down to 3-1, won the Morris Nicholson Cartwright Handicap Chase at Bangor yesterday. Leading before the

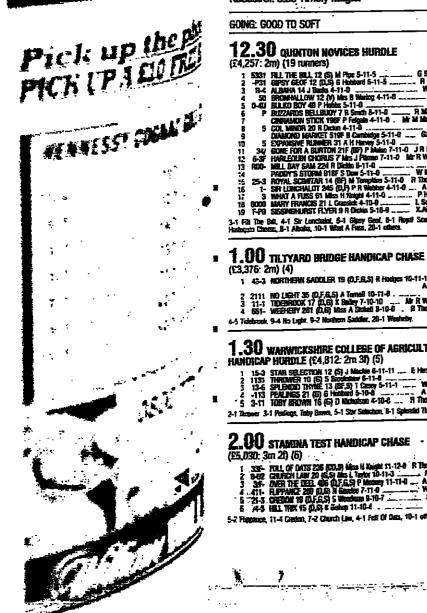
second last, she strode clear

#### for a 15-length success. Farrant misses Haydock

RODNEY FARRANT, who gave up his final two rides at Newbury yesterday, has decided to give up his mounts at Haydock today. Farrant aggravated an old injury on Wednesday and did not ride at Taunton yesterday, but was expected to be fit for Newbury.

race but was feeling uncomfortable and decided not to ride any more today and also miss tomorrow," the tockey's agent. Graeme James, said vesterday. He should be 100 However, after competing in | per cent by early next week."

Like to OWN 3 RACE HORSE



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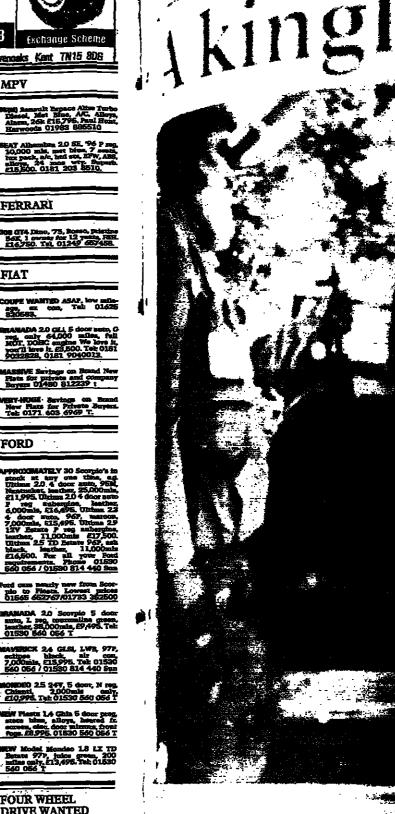
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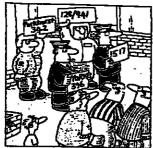
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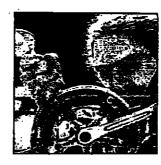
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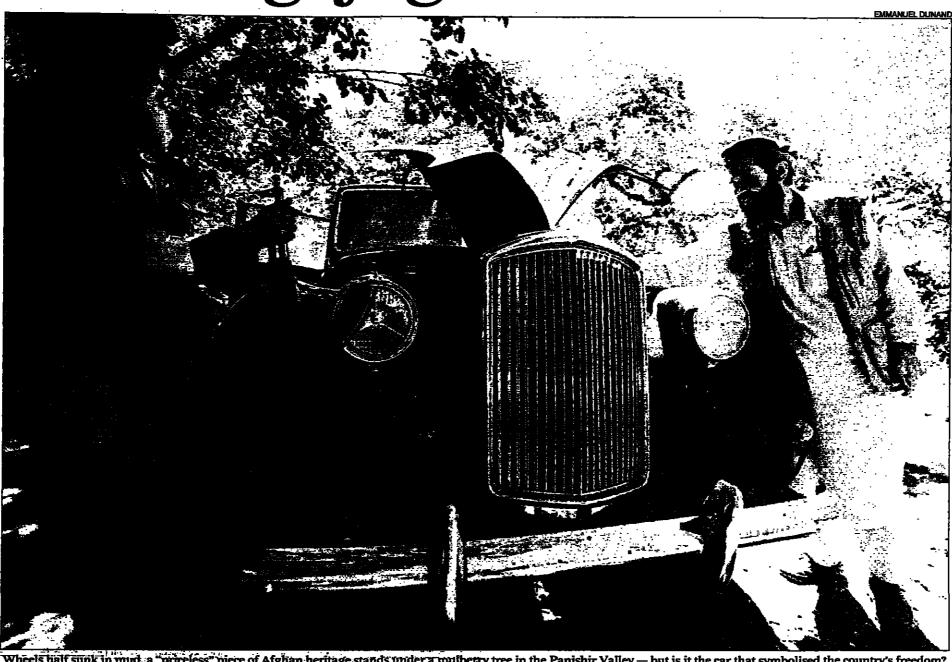
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**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29 1997** 

# A kingly gift lost in a war zone



Wheels half sunk in mud, a "priceless" piece of Afghan heritage stands under a mulberry tree in the Panjshir Valley — but is it the car that symbolised the country's freedom?

#### Michael Dynes hunts the Rolls-Royce George V gave to the ruler of Afghanistan

e had set off in search of one of the great myths of Afghanistan. A Rolls-Royce, which George V reputedly gave to King Amanollah to mark the country's independence from Britain's sphere of influence in 1919, was rumoured to be hidden in the remote Panjshir Valley.

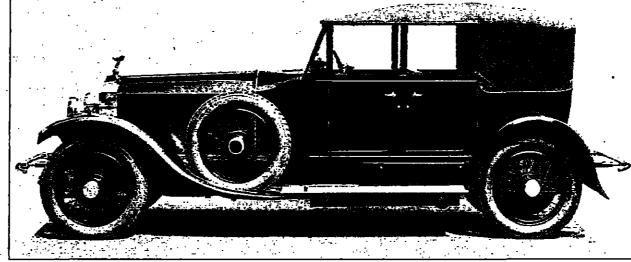
Bouncing about in an old Russian "jeep", whose rudimentary suspension had seen better days, we braced ourselves for what we knew would be a long and bruising journey in the blistering 47 degree heat up the narrow and precarious valley dirt road. Our small group of one British reporter, a French photographer, a female string-er for Voice of America, a Tajik Mujahidin driver who kept his Kalashnikov next to him in the

door compartment, seemed oddly out of place.
Forty miles to the south, on the vast battlefield north of Kabul, wild-eyed Mujahidin fighters and fundamentalist

Taleban militia men were pre-occupied with their usual aftermoon rocket duels. Daud Wahab, our Tajik translator, could not believe what we were doing. "There's a war going on, and what are we doing?" he kept muttering to himself, adding in his best upper-class English accent: "Looking for a bloody Rolls-

But this was no ordinary Rolls-Royce. For the people of this war-torn country it had come to symbolise their freedom from foreign domination at a time when a rag-tag army of Mujahidin fighters, led by Ahmed Shah Masood, the Tajik guerrilla chieftain, was trying to expel the Pakistanibacked Taleban militia from

the capital. During his coronation ad-dress, King Amanollah provoked war by declaring his country's "total independence" from Britain. A series of skirmishes followed between an ineffective Alghan army and an exhausted British Indian Army before a peace treaty



A Rolls-Royce Phantom I with Barker cabriolet bodywork — what King Amanollah's vanished car should look like

recognising Afghanistan's independence was signed at Rawalpindi in August 1919.

George V gave King Amanollah the Rolls-Royce during his visit to London in 1928. Having returned to Afghanistan armed with radical ideas of educational reform and the emancipation of women, Amanollah outraged the reactionary mullahs, provoked a tribal revolt and was forced to flee Kabul in the

Prized as a gift from one fighting nation to another, it has since been driven by every has not been seen since. Afghan leader until the Soviet Union's lightning invasion in

Kabul museum. When the black-bearded Taleban zealots were on the threshold of capturing the capital in September 1996, Commander Masood took the precaution of loading the Rolls on to a lorry and spiriting it

1979, after which it was found

retirement home in the

away to a secret destination. It

Stopping for tea at Com-nander Masood's mudwalled house in the Panjshir Valley, Dr Abdullah, the Commander's spokesman, said that he knew where the car was hidden and would be happy to write a letter granting us authorisation to travel further up the valley to see it.

Again we set off in search of our grail. The further we went, the worse the dirt track be-

came. Giant potholes, which only a four-wheel drive could negotiate, slowed us to a snail's pace. Our jeep balanced precariously on the narrow road which clung to the side of the mountain, while our mad Mujahidin driver played chicken with the rockfails as they crashed on to the

road from above. Fifty miles up the valley, we caught our first glimpse of a stately car. Sitting forlornly under a mulberry tree in the

ing Amanoliah's enthusiasm for Rolls-Royces knew no bounds. In 1927 he bought a fleet of Phantom Is, a Barker saloon, a Barker laundalette and a Hooper tourer, so it was not surprising that he should take a trip to the company's Derby factory during his state visit the following year

It appeared that Rolls-Royce had great hopes of converting the king's enthusiasm for its cars into lucrative orders for aero engines. Peter Baines, who looks after the the Rolls Royce Enthusiasts' Club archives, found several memos about the visit, one of which instructed sentries to keep under their wing various press representatives, including a man from

The company laid on an impressive motorcade, in-

machinegun turret. But. said The Times, the one that took the king's eye was a super sports touring model in light blue and silver plate. He leapt into it and Taking the wheel and raising his hat he shouted 'goodbye' and scattered the spectators by driving the

A fourth Rolls-Royce destined for the king, a Phantom with a Barker cabriolet body, was shipped out to Afghanistan via Bombay on the SS Mantua on August 3, 1928. If any of the king's cars

could be recovered with some proof of identity they would be worth well in excess of £50,000 at current auction prices. But their survival must be in considerable doubt. Recent photographs have shown a much later model Rolls-Royce, a 1939 Phantom III, being used for target practice by



Stylish carriage: Amanollah rides with George V

village of Dashet-e-Raywat, its Vanden Plas Princess had wheels half sunk into the mud. \_\_remained\_more\_or\_less\_unthe dark green exterior and red leather interior appeared to be in good condition. There was no distinctive silver lady on the bonnet, and the wing mirrors had been removed. But headlights, tyres and wooden dashboard looked original. It only had 12,378 kilometres on the clock. We were told the engine worked perfectly, although it did not have a battery, so we were unable to check.

Posing for photographs, and beaming with pride, Com-mander Abdul Aziz Majraw, guardian of the "priceless" piece of Afghan heritage, went on at length about the history of the car and how Commander Masood intends to keep it hidden there "until Afghani-

stan is free again".

But it is the wrong car. Having noted down the body and chassis numbers, we later checked with the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust in Warwickshire. Anders Clausager, the trust's archivist, was adamant: "There can be no mistake. The body and chassis numbers tally exactly with our records. It's a four-litre Vanden Plas Princess exported to Afghanistan in 1962." Clausager explained that because the basic styling of the

had bought them up, fitted appropriate accessories and genuine Rolls-Royces. n this case, however. "the vehicle had been exported new, and there is no sign of illegal conversion". Clausager added: "It would seem that, with the

passage of time, this vehicle

changed since the 1940s, there

had been a period in the 1970s

when unscrupulous dealers

has become confused with another in Afghan memory." Who knows what happend to Amanollah's Rolls-Royce? Was it destroyed in the murderous shelling of Kabul in 1992 when, having defeated the Soviet-backed regime of President Najibullah, the Mujahidin factions turned their guns on each other? Or is it still hidden in some forgot-

of this tortured land? What is certain is that the vehicle Commander Masood and his fighters think is the embodiment of their country's independence is nothing of the sort. In Afghanistan's darkest age of bloodshed and waste, one of the last remaining symbols of the country's na-

ten mud hut in a remote part

# Searching for a European sign language

Arthur Leathley explains why a group of foreigners may go astray this weekend

ing their heads while careering around our motorways and trunk roads this weekend. The hapless travellers are, like thousands of mystified visitors to Britain, trying to fathom the logic of a signposting system that has grown

haphazardly over decades. The difference this time is that the visitors might be able to do something about the forest of multicoloured signs that confuse foreigners and even leave locals in a state

of total bewilderment. The seasoned motorists are recovering from the most exhaustive

Take pity if you spot a band of signs and road systems as part of a bemused foreigners scratch-plan to harmonise signposting throughout European countries.

A 600-mile tour of England is the second stage of an eight-week

trans-European mission organised by motoring organisations, includ-ing the AA. Mind you, the AA official who devised the tour for a German driver, Austrian observer and support team must have a sense of humour — or malice.

A web that includes some of the most baffling road systems has been spun for the unsuspecting torrists. St Albans, Stratford-upon-Avon, Manchester and Birmingham's ring road networks, Milton Keynes and Oxford are among the







On the road: hush-hush in Birmingham in 1932, signs being sent out to guide Easter motorists in 1936, and a grim warning at Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, in 1930 The study of British roads will the problem is not such a bad thing. Attempts to make signposting

road layouts that the team will attempt to navigate their way through. In case they actually manage to fathom their way through, London has been laid on as the pièce de resistance.

The team has been set the task of negotiating the intricacies of east London, where nearly all signs point to Tilbury docks but few direct motorists to destinations they might actually wish to visit. Perhaps a European approach to

After all, the first properly organised system of signposts was the Roman use of "milliaries" which recorded each 1,000 paces along the straight routes linking the provinces of the empire. The modern British system was the result of government inquiry in 1933, although its work had to be thoroughly revised after the removal of so many signs in wartime for fear they might assist an invader.

also focus attention on standards of ty and lighting to pinpoint the best and worst examples of road layout and motoring advice, through signing, electronic information and radio traffic broadcasts. The European Union-funded project, which will take observers across 8,000 miles of motorways and major roads, is intended to bring the worst examples up to scratch.

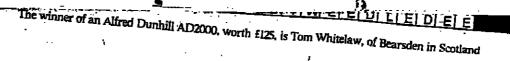
understandable to foreigners have been mired by international dis-putes over which system is the clearest and most efficient.

While signposting on Britain's motorway network is widely admired and frequently imitated. urban signing, especially in the capital, has been heavily criticised by UK motoring organisations. A study earlier this year suggested that 15,000 drivers are, at any

single moment, lost on the streets of

The study made all the more baffling the decision by the Highways Agency to cancel a £20 million re-signing project, originally planned for the capital in the mid-1980s, to coincide with the completion of the M25.

PS: If you see the travellers this weekend, point them towards Harwich: they are due in Holland by Monday for the next stage of the tour.



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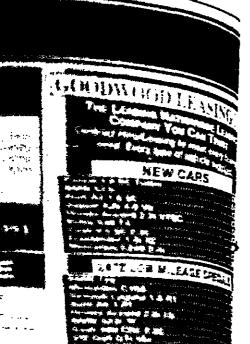
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fuss about Group 4 having to apologise for the fact that its guards transferred a prisoner from one van to another at a motorway services area on the M6 near Preston. Service areas and, in particular, petrol stations are ideal for this kind of delicate operation, as ordinary customers who run the gamut of closed circuit television and toughened glass at most petrol stations will

Try visiting a garage forecourt at night. The ones which double as hypermarkets are not so bad, for there is not much point a garage selling more groceries than Tesco and Sainsbury put together if the place is to be shut down when darkness falls. But even some of these outlets do not allow customone is often held up by the person in front shouting what sounds like a monthly grocery order through the grille that separates the cashier from the customers.

Similar problems can arise at garages which are more modest in their claims in that they do not sell everything from designer jeans to flat-pack kitchen units. The door to the area which houses the cashier is firmly locked as soon as the sun goes down, which at this time of year is just after lunch. This means that business has to be transacted through the aforementioned window, which is usually circular and carries all the signs of being bullet-proof. This type of glass is impervious to any sound short of a jet engine or a mobile discotheque, so the window is fitted with some basic

amplification equipment. This enables customer and cashier to attempt to hold a conversation, in which the customer says "Number four petrol and a Mars bar, please", but the cashier hears something resemfrequency range between two FM



Most people would be too busy to notice the fashion for one-piece suits with arrows

Daylight robbery while

cient to exhaust Sir Simon Rattle, the customer pays for someone else's petrol and receives 20 of the

rigarentes he gave up last week.

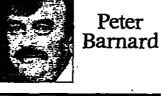
The chances of a prisoner exchange carried out in these circumstances posing any securityrisk is minimal. Most of the other people around would be too busy coping with their own problems to notice the sudden development of a local fashion for one-piece suits with arrows on them.

Of course the communications shortcomings of the garage's security grille could result in a harmless youth on work experi-ence as a cashier doing 20 years in Pentonville while a serial bank robber found himself dishing out car wash tokens to motorists, but what system is perfect?

Another site Group 4 should add to their list of prisoner swap facilities is the car park at your average Third Division football ground. That is another place usually devoid of people, even no, especially - on a Saturday afternoon. Sunday mornings can be tricky, as that is the time when

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their most lucrative activity, the car boot sale. It would be a pity if prisoner number 3669441 got himself exchanged for a 1950s standard lamp (shade missing).

for prisoner exchanges, with the bonus that drivers furning in the one lane that has been left to cars will have something to entertain them while they sit in the gridlock caused by the fact that the inside lane has been given over to buses. So we should not get too alarmed at prisoners appearing in

PORSCHE

Bus lanes are another prime site

ably off-limits, but I doubt that prisoners could afford the prices: on one motorway recently a steak and kidney pie and some coffee cost me £8.10. Not all criminals are in the car park. MY COLLEAGUE Kevin Eason

The restaurant areas are presum-

produced a breath of fresh air, so to speak, this week when he reported on research showing that drivers are breathing in up to three times as many toxic exhaust fumes from their cars as are cyclists and pedestrians. The nearer the kerb people are the more protected they are from exhaust pollution, which increases near the centre of roads. I have never been convinced by

the argument that drivers are cocooned from pollution by wellinsulated cars, because heating and ventilation systems will always introduce pollution to the cab. Clearly this makes the case for reduced exhaust emissions even stronger, and drivers who selfishly thought they were safe will have to think again. And join

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Stuart Mickleburgh and Downton Club Sport: "refined enough to plod round town and still create a stir

# Downton reborn in a mighty Mini

very time I parked this car, men of a certain age would nowhere, crouch down and peer almost misty-eyed at tyres, wheel arches and trim. Many looked wistful as they caressed the body-work, as if they had caught a

glimpse of happier days gone by. When you accelerate, the car growls through the gears, splitting the air with sounds more akin to off-road rallying than pootling down to the supermarket The last time I saw a car like it was 1971, when the local teenage car mechanic used to perform midnight wheelies in a car park in Wisbech while mini-skirted girls and would-be James Deans looked on in grudg-

ing admiration..
The car which belonged to the now-middle aged mechanic was a Mini Cooper S: the vehicle which brought back memories of it is an even more souped-up Mini, the Downton Club Sport i.3i, a highlytuned, limited edition version of the cars turned out in the 1960s by the Downton engineering company which was founded 50 years ago.

Downton, which tuned Bentleys and Bugattis as well as supplied

**Eve-Ann Prentice** enters memory lane

engines and cylinder heads to BMC works Minis, closed in 1974 but the rights to the company were bought by brothers Stuart and Paul Mickleburgh in 1993, Operating out of Mulbarton, Norfolk, they enlisted the help of Bryan Slark, an original Downton engineer, to provide a Downton rebuilt engine for

The result is a toy-sized powerhouse that can accelerate from 0-60 in under nine seconds, sticks to corners as if on rails and makes you feel like a kid again. It has been built to be tough and safe, with rear anti-roll bar, high performance

brake pads and shoes, and heightadjustable suspension. The Mini, as in days of yore, is nothing if not minimalist inside. You forget how we have become accustomed to luxurious seats, sound systems and padded dashboards. But the Club World does not even have a radio and the

adherence to 1960s-style means no

head restraints - which may seem

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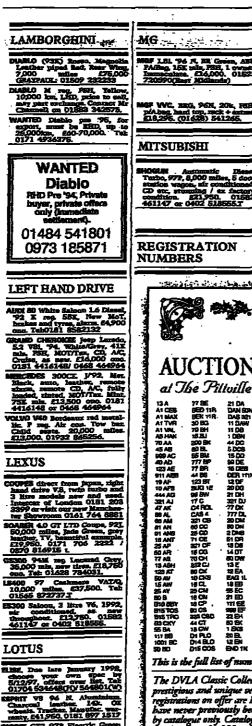
With no seats in the rear and bucket seats in front, motorway driving can be uncomfortable to anyone with anything but teen-slim hips. The demonstration model was also showing some signs of wear: the instrument lights were not working, which made a night drive more stressful than it might have been, and one of the two leather straps holding down the carbon fibre bonnet was so perished it fell apart the first time I tried to unbuckle it to look at the engine. A panel-beater friend came

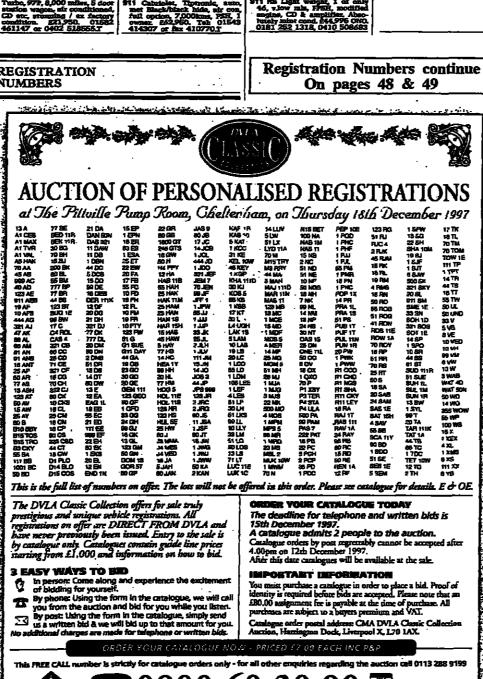
to the rescue with a piece of wire. The Mickleburgh brothers say this car is "designed to appeal to the more enthusiastic driver through its performance . . . it is also refined enough to plod around town all day and still create a stir".

About 50 have already been sold to a Japanese company, Dinky Classic, but be warned - nostalgia comes at a price; the Downton Mini Club Sport costs between £10.450 and £12.711.

For information call





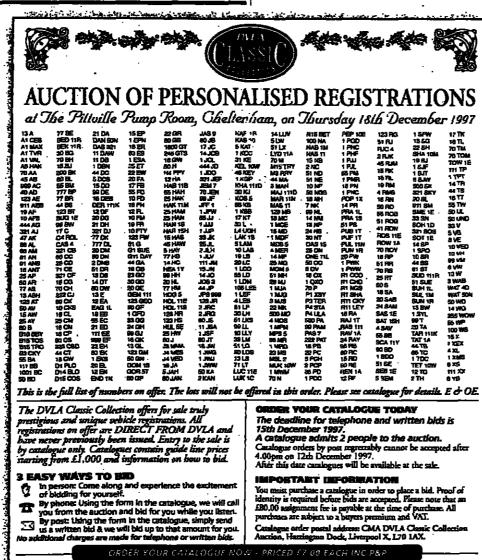


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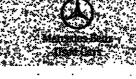


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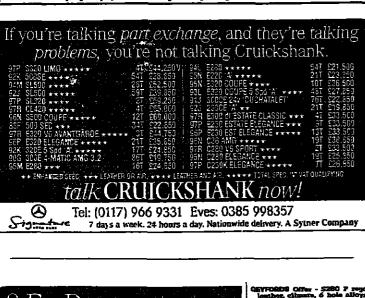




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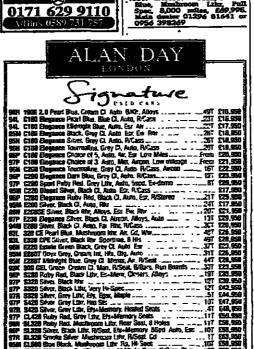
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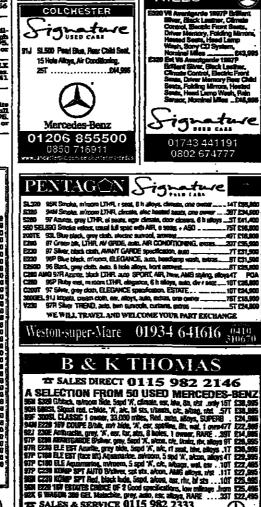




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# Spokesman for a small island

**Morag Preston** meets the man looking for old bikes to

get Haiti on the move again

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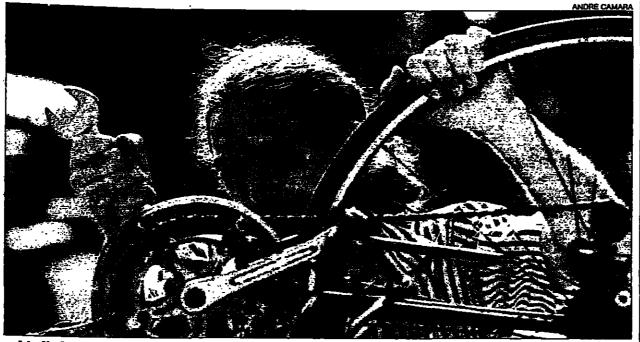
er er Friedrich

erlin Matthews has a two-wheeled mission. Driven by environmentally-friendly dream, he wants to make the bicycle a viable means of transport in Haiti - the poorest country in the Western

The 6ft 2ins cyclist rides under the name of Dr Bike. Dressed in flower-power shorts and sandals he earned his nickname as head of the Bike Club at the London School of Economics. In exchange for a 50p membership fee, he and his team would repair penniless students' bikes. In return for a beer, Matthews would give classes

on bike maintenance. Now he wants to round up as many unwanted bikes in the UK as he can get, ship them to Haiti and sell them for a nominal sum. His aim is to set up a string of workshops on the Caribbean island where locals can borrow tools and learn how to repair their own bikes. "Haiti has a democracy for the first time, and is ripe for progress." he says. "If the

RL 3796 12500



Merlin Matthews: "If Haiti's political system goes pear-shaped, at least we will have left them with new skills"

political system goes pearshaped, at least we will have left them with new skills."

"Re-Cycle" received charitable status in July. Matthews, 24. hit on the idea after a meeting with Jo Dufort, a Haitian-born student at LSE, who now works for the charity on the island. Two years ago, he visited Haiti for the first time and saw for himself the problems facing a country where 80 per cent of the population is unemployed. It suffers from a severe drought and soil erosion is a serious

threat. But, due to a long series of dictators, the island has received little aid.

Lack of transport is a longterm problem. Islanders spend four hours on average travelling to work on their fields or into town. Collecting water, wood, and food is timeconsuming, while transporting them can be cumbersome. The roads are potholed and only the élite own cars. Bicycles, most of them stolen from Florida, are highly soughtafter status symbols.

Schools and hospitals are

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high on the charity's list of recipients. "Demand is going to far outstrip supply, so we need some kind of rationing." says Matthews. We need to make sure that the bikes go to those who need them, not freewheelers."

To get the project off the ground, "Re-Cycle" will initially work alongside The Institute for Transportation and Development Policy, an American group carrying out a similar scheme in Haiti. Funding will rely heavily on donations in kind. Some super-

255,000 TO HAVE

prior piped green. Twin arbugs inch whech. CD. humobilizer. Tracker. Alarm. New Tryos. F.R.R.S.H.

and containers already going to Haiti will be used to transport the bikes. The difficult bit is the shipping and storing — the easy bit is getting our hands on the bikes," says Matthews. "Fashion changes so quickly in the bike world that thou-

markets have agreed to act as

central distribution points,

and surplus space on ships

sands are thrown away. The plan is that the bikes will be repaired in Haiti. "The labour cost of fixing some bikes is prohibitive in the UK, but viable in Haiti," says Matthews, who lives in West Mersea, Essex. "People throw away inner tubes with one hole in them. Bike shops throw away a lot of old wheels, and pedals with 5,000 miles still left in them. Our aim is to teach people to fix them up, then sell the bikes for a fee, depending on how much

them the value of it." At present bikes are being collected only in East Anglia, but the charity is interested in hearing from volunteers to set up networks in other regions. Re-Cycle, 01206 383906.

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money they've got - to show

#### **Christian Dymond** on a revolutionary water cycle

canal

You don't need the skills of a

specialist shipwright. The other advantage is that it can be

towed behind the family car

like a caravan," says Mr

e took the boat for two

miles of trials on the

River Itchen earlier

this year, accompanied by Jon

Sims, a writer for Waterways

World, who had spotted news

of Thiel's design in the special-

ist waterways magazine six

"Escargot looks extremely

professional and behaves very

well. The gearing on the pedals, though, needs to be

changed to make it less effort

The operators sit on two

saddles in the stern well of the

boat - one person can also

drive it - and their pedalling

motion drives the propellor.

on the legs," he says.

years ago.

pedal-powered canal And river boat has trig-and river boat has trig-gered "huge interest" among manufacturers after its launch at the National Water-ways Festival at Henley-on-

The two berth cabin cruiser is powered by two "seacycle" units, and at a constant pedalling rate of 50rpm, two people can manage 3-4mph. Hence the name, Escargot. The Environment Agency,

which owns the boat, hopes it will promote the idea of using environmentally-friendly craft on Britain's waterways. Plans and building instructions for Escargot are on sale at £50 a

The 18ft 6ins long boat weighs just under three quarters of a ton and is made of a marine plywood skin on a softwood frame, bonded and coated with epoxy resin. Orginally designed by Seanlebased naval architect, Philip Thiel, the UK version was built over a period of ten weeks earlier this year by Southampton boat builder Colin Jones for about £12,000.

Low energy lighting is powered by a 12-volt battery, charged by a solar panel. Plans are being explored for the installation of a larger solar panel to charge three or four 12-volt batteries and provide enough energy to run an electric outboard motor for eight hours.

Escargot was designed as a DIY project, so can be built by

down the canal system from Dudley to Henley for the Festival. Thirty volunteeers from the Waterways Recovery **Pedal** Group, the voluntary organisyour ation which restores and repairs derelict canals, took two weeks to pedal the 160 miles, own which included 120 locks.

"It was like cycling up a slight hill all the time, so our legs felt a bit tired and one girl had blisters on her bottom, but ir's certainly a cheap way of getting around," says Sue Bur-chett, who organised the vol-

The Environment Agency, which took on the responsibilities of the old National Rivers Authority, says Escargor meets the twin objectives of silent running and the use of sustainable energy sources. The fact that the boat creates minimal wash because of her weight and shallow draught is welcome too; excessive "ash can erode canal and river

Inland boating attracts a sizeable number of people in this country; 44,000 hold licences from the Environment Agency for the 500-600 miles of navigable rivers which the agency manages while nearly 30,000 hold licences from British Waterways for the 2,000 miles of canals under its control. Many more have licences from other navigation authorities.

After river trials, the Escar-For building instructions got was taken by road to the of Escargot contact Ion Sims on 01703 732868 (evenings only). West Midlands then pedalled

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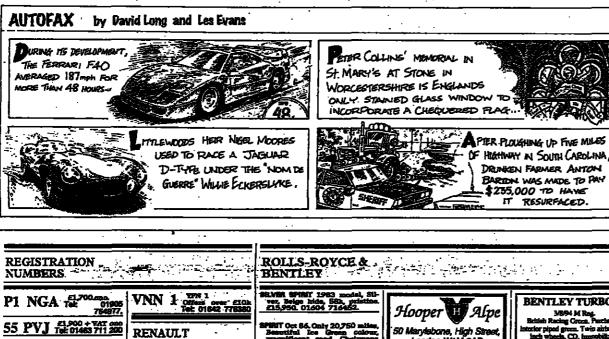
Silent running and sustainable energy: Jon Sims, left, and Colin Jones on the Escargot

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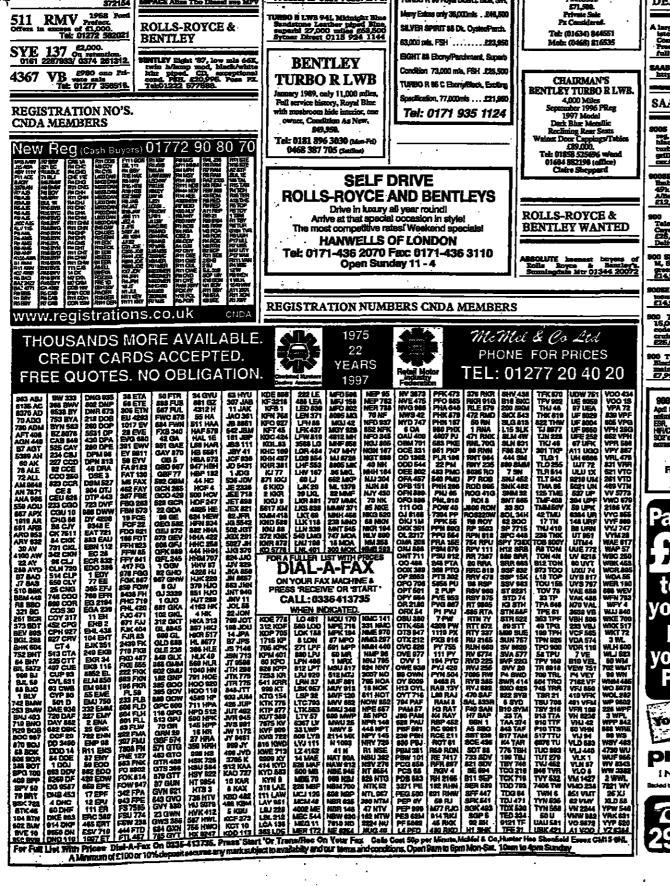
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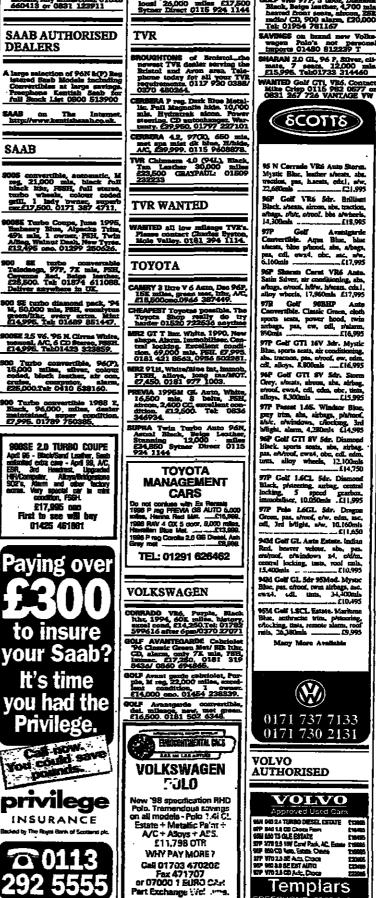
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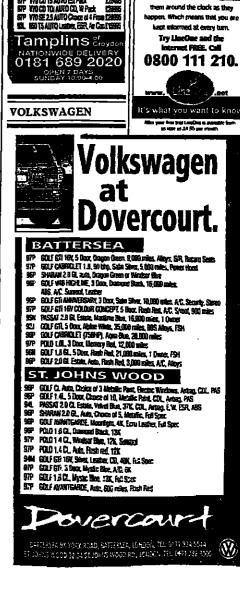




TO ME E The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, is Tom Whitelaw, of Bearsden in Scotland



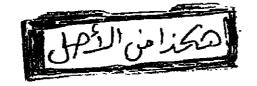




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#### **MUTUAL FRIENDS 57**

The rapid rise of the credit union movement

# WEEKEND MONEY

#### **MANEK PREACHES 56**

The Ruislip phenomenon gives stock-picking tips



# Play it again Sam — for big bucks

Film and entertainment memorabilia, from the suits worn in the James Bond films to

plastic Star Wars toys, are a relatively new market for the fine art houses, but are being

tipped as a good investment with big prices

already achieved. Clare Stewart reports

ours for just £8,000, one dinner jacket (circa 1971, decorative lapels, silk lined). one owner. Also available, one blue pinstripe suit, also from early 1970s and on offer at £4,500 to £6,500.

You might be forgiven for thinking such prices are just a little on the high side, given that most 1970s suits are more likely to raise sniggers and a price tag in single figures at the average jumble sale.

One four-letter word makes all the difference. Bond ... James Bond Both the tuxedo and suit were made for Sean Connery in Diamonds are Forever, and as highlights of a forthcoming sale of film collectibles at Christie's are likely to turn Bond buffs weak at

Film and entertainment memorabilia are a relatively new market in auction house terms but one where diverse and sometimes bizarre items can command impressive prices. Film posters, signed photographs, costumes, props, face masks from horror movies - almost anything it seems that has been worn, sat on, touched or associated with a film star or successful production can become collectible.

Film and television-related items can also appreciate rapidly, especially when linked to box-office hits. Some of the ordinary Star Wars merchandise, for example, churned out when the film was launched ten years ago, is now fetching over £100 in salerooms. The film and enter-tainment market is not driven by investors looking to top up their retirement incomes, but by collectors who are keen, if not fanatical. in their pursuit of items whether related to Star Trek, Gone With

The Wind-or Marilyn Monroe. Signed pictures, autographs or letters from stars, have been collected for years but it is a market that Bonhams, is particularly buoyant at present. At a sale in early November, for example, a signed photo of Marilyn Monroe fetched £2,800, he said.

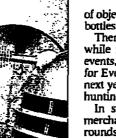
It is not just the importance of the star that determines price, he added, but how inclined they are or were to sign autographs. The signature of actors such as Clint Eastwood or Paul Newman, not known to oblige fans eagerly, are therefore in demand. Items signed by the cast of Coronation Street are

For would-be collectors, signed memorabilia can be a way into the market that does not involve spending thousands of pounds. Among items for sale at Christie's on December 11, for example, is a collection of publicity photographs of stars associated with Ealing Studios, including Margaret Lockwood, Michael Redgrave and Diana Rigg. The estimate is £150-£250.

A signed photo of Laurel and Hardy is estimated at £250-£300, while a set of letters and photos of Hollywood stars such as Grace Kelly. Ava Gardner and Clark Gable is estimated at £400-£500. Film posters are also very soughtafter, whether vintage examples from the 1920s and 30s or from more recent films, particularly if in good condition. Sotheby's has now added a specialist film poster sale in response to growing demand from UK and European collectors. At the last sale in September, a larger poster for Casablanca fetched almost £50,000, breaking UK records, while a small window card to advertise The Maltese Falcon made £5,200.

In March at its next sale, Sotheby's is expecting big interest in a group of German film posters from the 1920s. "People collect because of a fascination with films, at auction, says Ted Owen from not for investment," said Miles





Barton, Sotheby's film specialist. houses provide a good range of items in sales which may be purely Things do go in trends. For film and entertainment items, or example, the market for western may span related areas such as film posters was at its peak two years ago in the US and has waned rock and pop memorabilia. since. But generally it is a fairly new market, so things that make a Smaller auction houses may also include film items among sales of

good price tend to retain it." so-called collectibles, a broad cate-For would-be collectors auction gory which can cover a wide range



Of all the posters in all the world, Casablanca's topped the lot, while James Bond's tux and unexterminated Daleks fetch thousands

There are also specialist dealers, while regional antiques fairs and events, such as the NEC Antiques for Everyone Fairs in Birmingham next year may also provide a good hunting ground.

In spite of the marketing and merchandising hype that sur-rounds many big films, the big film studios and production companies do not sell off props and costumes to eager fans, although there are very occasional charity sales in the US. Most of the film items that come on the market arrive via people who have worked on a particular film set.

Nor do television companies have sales. Many of the costumes. props and sets used in current BBC series, for example, are hired or reused for other programmes, although there have been one or two sales in the past selling costumes as well as items from Dr Who. These are currently very collectible, said Mr Owen, who recently sold a Dalek at auction for £4,500. Whole

of objects from odd gadgets to beer and entire Daleks are particularly rare as many were broken up.

Fan clubs are another source of memorabilia, both current and historic. The James Bond Fan Club. which has about 5,000 members, sells merchandise and collectors' items and organises conventions for fans. Current Bondabilia is worth collecting, say film specialists, though Sean Connery remains

nan, Dalton and Moore. Christie's sale on December 11 has a wide range of Bond-related items. Apart from Sean Connery's dinner jacket, the selection runs to leatherette bikinis worn in Octopussy (£750-£950) and a lifesize cardboard cut-out of Sean Connery (£400-£600).

more desirable than Messrs Bros-

When it comes to fixing price tags to certain of the film collectables. beauty is clearly in the eye of the collector. Among the oddities expected to interest collectors at Christie's sale is a Satan costume, which includes "knee-high hoof boots in imitation fur," an "oversized codpiece," a gold lurex cape and mask (horns missing). As worn in the film *Legend*, yours for just £4,000 to £6,000.

A large egg used in Alien in 1986 could set you back £800 to £1,000. while a replica Robocop costume is estimated at £2,000-£3,000. There are also costumes and props from Batman, Superman and Star Wars together with items from more recent films such as Event Horizon, Braveheart and Air Force One.

ow much contemporary film posters and market-ing material will be worth in the future is uncertain, although items related to the most successful productions may be worth keeping. say the experts.

General awareness of the value of such items has increased. "You can almost see people in cinema lobbies wondering what to ask for," says Sarah Hodgson at Christie's. "Much more is being saved, so film posters, for example, may not be as

valuable in the future."
Rarity and condition, as in any collectors' item, is the thing to look for in film memorabilia. As advice to a novice collector, Miles Barton at Sotheby's said: "It is worth saving up to buy decent things such as film posters from the 1920s to 50s." He also highlights areas such as 1960s posters, particularly those for spy films of the era.

True cinema devotees will have to dig a little deeper, however, if they want to secure what is billed as the star attraction of Christie's sale next month: a previously unseen documentary film about the childhood and early life of Charlie Chaplin. The black and white film. made in 1928, is expected to fetch more than £10,000.

#### CONTACTS

Christie's: December 11. Film and entertainment sale (0171-581 7611). Bonhams: February 18. Rock, pop and entertainment sale (017) 393

Sotheby's: March 25. Film memorabilia and poster sale (0171-493 8080). **NEC Antiques for Everyone Fairs** 

(01297 443355). James Bond Fan Club: (01483 756007).

Collectors' Film Conventions: (0171-736 8511).

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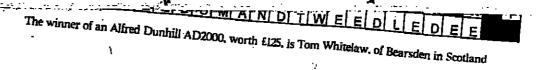
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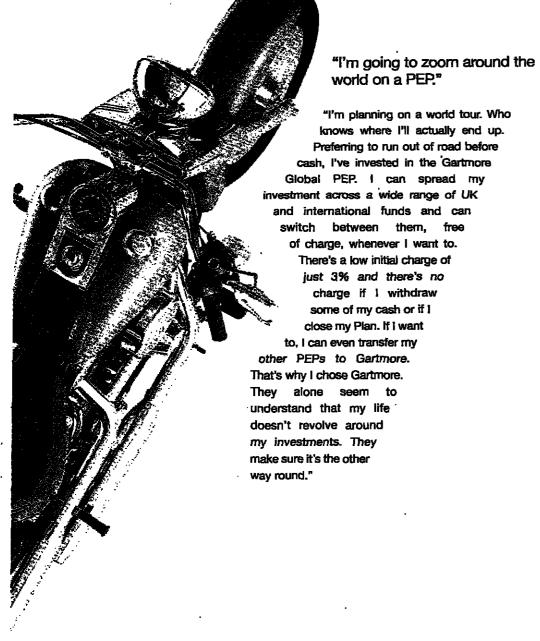
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# Tokyo's elusive turning point

wenty four years on, it is hard to recapture the gloom that once engulied the London stock market. An economic and takeover boom under the 1970 Tory government helped prices of shares and commercial property to reach heady peaks in the spring of 1972. Then it all went horribly wrong. Interest rates rose, sterling got into trouble and the economy was already suffering from inflation and a credit squeeze by the time oil prices doubled and trebled at the end of 1973.

A collapse in commercial property values sank a new breed of banks that had financed the development boom. Confidence evaporated from other smaller banks and the Bank of England had to organise a lifeboat. Even NatWest was thought to be on the brink. Companies' equity was transparently cheap, if they stayed in business. A Labour government had little sympathy. As tumbling values hit the security of loans, pension funds and endowment policies, no one could be sure who would go bust next. Rumours that a top company would collapse were finally realised as the new year of 1975 dawned. Burmah Oil, which borrowed heavily against its stake in BP, had to be saved by the Bank of England buying its holding at a bargain price.

By the end of the first week of January

1975, the old FT industrials 30 share index had lost more than 70 per cent of its value in May 1972. And share values did not break consistently into new higher ground until 1981. Meanwhile, some investors made an awful lot of money. The tide turned when a cartel of insurers bought simultaneously. Within weeks, the index doubled.

The unselective despair felt at that time may be hard to recapture. But it is easy enough to imagine. Just look at:

ome good news for sav-

ers this week as Nat-ional Savings increased

its rates for the third time

since the base rate increase at

the beginning of May. Rates

on accounts have been in-

creased by up to 0.5 per cent.

For instance, on the ordinary

instant access account, rates

from the beginning of Decem-

ber will now be 2 per cent for

balances of between £1 and

£499. Those with balances of greater than £499 will earn 3

increased the rate on its.

monthly income product by

0.25 per cent from January 8

next year. Amounts of less than

£25,000 will earn 7 per cent per

annum gross, and amounts of

more than £25,000 will earn

7.25 per cent. As part of the review of rates, National Sav-

ings is adding two tiers on its

investment account. Savings of

more than £50,000 will now

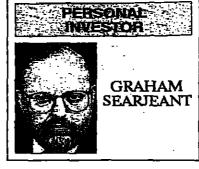
earn 6.5 per cent interest on the

account have also been in-

Rates on the Treasurer's

investment account.

per cent on their savings. National Savings has also



Tokyo today. The question is whether similar profits are to be made by buying. History rarely repeats exactly. It is eight years since rising domestic interest rates pricked Japan's asset price bubble. The Nikkei share index tumbled 60 per cent between New Year 1990 and the summer of 1992. But there was no oncefor-all bounce. Doom became a way of life as the economy stalled in recession. Twice more, most recently this month, the Nikkei relapsed to a low of about 15,000, only to rebound anaemically, like a tennis ball that has lost its bounce.

In 1995, the yen grew painfully strong under American pressure before interest rates were cut to levels that are painfully low for savers. This year, the Government's foolishly premature attempt to restore state finances has wrecked the nascent recovery. Uncertainty among consumers and investors is now making things worse amid a tide of collapses typical of the late stages of recession, when any hope of saving a company's finances have gone. Financial stocks are dirt cheap as going concerns, but not if they go bust. Who can be sure there will not be another Yamaichi?

The twin case for buying Japanese

seen the need to support the financial system with cash and that even fans of the Tokyo stock market are gloomy. Mercury Asset Management for instance, though proud of the relative performance of its Japanese unit trusts, is not yet trying to drag in the crowds.

There are, as ever, good reasons for continued pessimism. The economy is turning down again as loss of confidence at home combines with the troubles of East Asian customers. Car orders are terrible. European and American investors face other hazards. Japanese business may need a further 10-15 per cent devaluation, eating up any gains in yen share prices. And many companies are hard to rate because profits are not consolidated, making the index appear to trade at 50 times earnings.

und managers have also become more sophisticated since 1975. Shell and Cadbury were never likely to have gone bust whatever happened to the UK economy. So investors have kept faith with a Tokyo "nifty fifty" whose profits have kep: growing and whose share ratings, on a consolidated basis, are comparable with peers in New York or London. These are mostly multinational groups such as Sony, Fuji Photo, Canon or Hitachi (somewhat less the motor-related issues such as Toyota or Bridgestone) whose management and culture is geared to global competition, plus quality domes-tic groups with strong brand growth or

Such stocks are not so cheap but offer the best way to back Japan's future. Investors with the nerve to buy financials or smaller companies might make spectacular gains, but may end men-tioned in dispatches as gallant fallers.

**National Savings** provides small comfort for savers

Savings of between £10,000 and £24,999 will earn 6 per cent interest. Savings of between £25,000 and £99,999 will earn 6.25 per cent, while savings in excess of £100,000 will earn 6.5 per cent. The rate rises come into effect from December IL

Until recently, National Savings had failed to keep pace with interest rate changes. However, with the further increase in base rates to 7.25 per cent National Savings was unlikely to attract the extra £2.4 billion needed for the organisation to reach the funding target set by the Government at the beginning of the tax year.

In the first six months, it

money of only £613 million. However, this week the Government revealed that it had cut its target to £2 billion.

Cheltenham & Gloucester also increased its savings rates this week. The interest on its instant access account will now be 7.25 per cent gross. The C&G Direct 30 will now pay 7.3 per cent on the top tier of £100,000 or more. The annual rate on the C&G 90day account moves to 7.35 per cent for savings of more than £100,000. The C&G London account pays 6.25 per cent

The interest rates on National Savings products are set according to the amount of money the Government needs

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towards

next year's PEP

(that's the equivalent of at least 8% gross p.a.)

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15th DECEMBER 1997

borrowing requirement (PSBR). When the PSBR is high, rates on National Savings products need to be high to attract a lot of money. When the PSBR is lower, need not be as high.

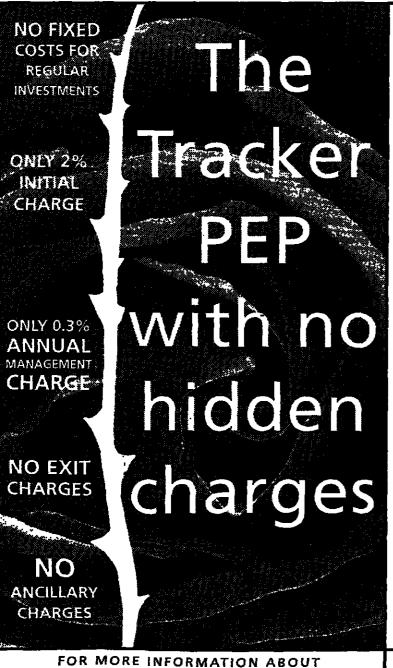
Unlike building society in-terest rates, which are linked to the base rate, the rates offered by National Savings will also rise and fall in line with the yields on gilt-edged securities. Gilt yields are not directly linked to base rates. National Savings rates may remain low despite the fact ( that base rates have risen by a total of 1.25 per cent over the past six months.

Charles Levett-Scrivener, Towry Law, said that he did not think the National Savings products were particularly attractive. He said: "You can get better rates for lower balances on other products. Abbey National also in-

creased its rates last week, on many of its accounts rate rises were between 0.25 per cent and 0.3 per cent.

creased by 0.25 per cent. managed to attract net new to service the public sector. CAROLINE MERRELI

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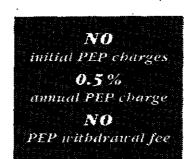
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LIMITED EDITION



# It's time NS gave us the full Monty

here are many riveting sights in The Full Monty, the tale of unemployed Sheffield steel workers who take up stripping. But I was transfixed by the short fully-clad scene where the truncal have clad scene where the young boy takes out £100 from his National Savings Ordinary account as a loan for his indigent father. For a moment my thoughts drifted from a saga of men regaining their self respect to the story of a savings institution which was losing its

A £100 balance in the Ordinary A £100 balance in the Ordinary Account is earning a stingy 1.50 per cent. This may be one reason why the child felt the money would be better spent on the skingy costumes for his father's act. On Monday, the rate will rise to 2 per cent. Although this is an increase of one third, the account will continue to be uncompetitive. Even at the usually less than generous Halifax,



COMMENT ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

the boy could earn 5 per cent, while the Britannia First Savers account

offers 7 per cent. The Ordinary Account change is one of a number of improvements announced this week by National Savings in an attempt to arrest the decline in its business. At the same time, the organisation disclosed that it will now need to contribute just £2 billion to the Exchequer in 1997-98, instead of £3 billion. This is an admission of its failure to offer schemes that the public finds

attractive. While Premium Bonds continue to appeal to the nation's fondness for a flutter, there is less interest in the fixed-rate bonds and certificates; despite our predilec-tion for gambling, we are reluctant to take a five-year view on interest rates. A regular savings scheme with instant access and good returns for small monthly contributions would be an excellent addition to the range. But perhaps this would be too popular?
National Savings, which has £62 billion of our money in its care is ultimately controlled by the Chan-cellor. If he truly wishes us to become thriftier, he should ensure that this part of his empire puts on a

#### Long-term Brown

BESIDES desiring that we should all save more, Gordon Brown wants us to become "long-term-ists". In view of this, we presume arrangements will be put in place allowing those with Peps to transfer as much as possible of this cash into the new individual savings accounts. Although some in govern-ment circles would like to believe every Pep investor is a plutocrat, the reality is rather different. Millions are saving in Peps to repay mortgages and to supplement pen-sions, taking the self-help, long-term view Mr Brown so admires.

# Home loans temptation

fter a period of post-Fixed-rate market is hotting up, says John Givens A general election.

tainty, the low-cost,
making general election uncerfixed-rate mortgage is making a comeback. A series of interest rate rises by the Bank of England shortly after Labour came to power on May 1 looked like putting an end to some of the spectacular fixedrate deals on offer to homebuyers, with many experts predict-ing lending rates would cont-

inue to rise. However, with the future for interest rates looking a little more stable now than just a few months ago, a renewed confidence has entered the fixed-rate mortgage market and lenders are putting their necks on the block by introducing an array of low-cost deals.

According to MoneyFacts, the financial statistics agency, house buyers wanting to fix their mortgage repayments for five years can get a market-leading rate of 5.99 per cent. pegged until February 1, 2003. with Northern Rock, assuming the amount borrowed is no more than 75 per cent of the value of the house.

For people with a smaller deposit, Northern Rock is loans up to 95 per cent at 6.99

per cent, although Coventry Building Society can offer the same deal at 6.5 per cent fixed until March 31, 2003. Borrowers looking for short-term fixes can also benefit from the fierce competition in the market.

Scarborough Building Society is offering rates as low as 1.69 per cent fixed until January 1, 1999, while Northern Rock heads the two-year league table with a rate of 3.99 per cent, pegged until February 1, 2000, for loans up to 75 per cent of the property value.

Although the one and twoyear fixed-rate markets are popular, Sally Laker, general manager of Mortgage Intelligence, a home loans broker, says it is the medium-term five-year market that is capturing the imagination of house buyers. She said: "The five-year fixed-rate market has been very competitive in the last few weeks, with a range of attractive deals on offer. I think some lenders are finding themselves holding surplus mortgage funds which they

want to sell off before the end of the year and are coming to the market with deals that people cannot resist."

With the variable mortgage rate standing at about 8.7 per cent with most lenders - some have not yet passed on the Bank of England's quarterpoint rise on November 6 — it is easy to see why lower rates fixed for a full 60 months are proving so popular.

ovise Pendleton of Bristol & West, which has a ↓ five-year mortgage fixed at 6.75 per cent for loans up to 90 per cent of value, says interest in medium-term fixes is strong. "It is a good time to buy a five-year fixed-rate deal and this is certainly where we are seeing most action at the moment."

However, it is not just the rates that are attracting people to take out medium-term fixes. Another important consideration is the likelihood that Britain will opt for European economic and monetary union Chancellor

Brown's self-imposed five-year lower than it is now. stand-off from the rest of the

Continent comes to an end. When Britain does come into line with its European neighbours it will mean UK fixed-rate period ends. interest rates will have to fall to the sort of levels seen in

any, Holland and Belgium, where base rates are currently about 3.3 per cent. With mortgage rates linked to base rates, the size of monthly repayments could fall in the early years of the new

countries like France, Germ-

Because of this many borrowers are looking to fix for the medium term in the hope deal comes to an end they are exposed to a market where the standard variable rate is much

This means borrowers get the double benefit of a low-cost fixed mortgage now and even lower repayments when the

Fixed-rate deals can come at a cost that many people don't consider at the outset, with redemption penalties usually being charged if the mortgage holder changes or moves to a new lender within a specified timescale. This is typically six months of interest calculated at the standard variable rate, which on an average £60,000 mortgage would currently mean a penalty of about

the Dest rate for your

Sir John Templeton, founder of

Templeton Growth Fund in 1954.

has given it his support. In June

1995, Templeton asked Manek to

Pani Ham, Money Editor

JAYESH MANEK, who achieved the remarkable feat of turning a notional £10m into £502m to win



Even those who have only small deposits are catered for in today's home loans market

GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY - GREAT INVESTMENT

#### the 1994 Sunday Times Fantasy manage £5m of his personal wealth, raising this to £10m last Fund Manager competition, is to launch his first UK unit trust year. Manek's investment stratelater this month. gy lifted the fund to £13m, all of which will be unitised and placed The Manek Growth Fund will be available as a Pep and aims to in his new unit trust.... invest for long-term capital growth, primarily in a selection ...[Manek's] strategy will involve identifying a company's intrinsic of UK equities. qualities, including relative Manek, who came to Britain from Uganda in 1971, was also strength within its sector and long-1995 Fantasy Fund manager... term earnings per share growth. ... His first "real world" unit Fantasy Star Launches Fund. THE SUNDAY TIMES trust comes with impeccable credentials: no less an investor than 8 The hypothetical investment returns gamed under the rules of The Sunday Till competitions (1994 & 1995) should not be construed as an indication of real investment. he man who came first launches his first UK fund

#### A winning investor

Jayesh Manek won THE SUNDAY TIMES Fantasy Fund Manager Competitions, not just once - but twice, beating thousands of contestants including many professional fund managers. He walked off with nearly a quarter of a million pounds in prize money.

Since then Jayesh Manek has been preparing for an even bigger event, the launch of the Manek Growth Fund, a new unit trust.

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Jayesh's share picking ability has already attracted the attention of Sir John Templeton, the legendary investment guru who established the Templeton Growth Fund in 1954.

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# Gloves are off in the battle of the banks

Direct route can pay

J Cornofsky until she moved to telephone banking with

First Direct. As events manager at the Connaught Rooms,

the dinner and banqueting halls in London, she is in

charge of organising functions — from small board meetings to dinner dances for more than 400 people (Susan

Working long and irregular hours meant that Jodi could

never spare the time to visit her local branch of Barclays

Bank. It only took two months in her first job before she decided to move away from the bank where she had held her student account. "It was too much hassle. I could not

get to the bank and get anything done," she said. "I work really long hours and it's just easier to do telephone banking. It means I can collapse when I get home at 9 o'clock at night and pay the bills, which are always waiting

most of the paperwork was done over the phone. The only

bother was informing her employer of her new bank details

and waiting for her next salary to be paid into her new

account. But according to Jodi it was worth it. "In this

industry, you might have to work the weekend and get a day off during the week but the last thing you want to do on your

day off is go down to the bank to sort things out," she said.

for me. It's just a lot more convenient."

Jodi had no direct debits or standing order

changing and any organis-

ation or person who has ever

Customer loyalty is being tested to the full, says Susan Emmett

The launch of the Virgin One bank account in the new year will show how many people are willing to turn their backs on the high street banks, although dissatisfaction with the traditional banks is already causing thou-sands to switch accounts.

Once upon a time, the British were more likely to divorce than to change banks. A relationship with a bank manager was a life-long commitment. But higher expecta-tions of standards of service have changed the way account holders approach their banks, and increasing competition means that disgrunted cus-tomers are spoilt for choice.

Richard Branson's Virgin One, which works as a joint flexible mortgage and bank account, has been billed as one of the most innovative on the market. Thousands of Virgin Direct customers have expressed an interest in opening a Virgin One account since its launch earlier this month. Many more are expected to join in the new year when the account opens to the general

Customers move their accounts for a variety of reasons. Some grow so irritated by the closure of their branch that they opt for a telephone banking service, such as First Direct, a division of the Mid-land. One NatWest customer switched to First Direct when NatWest closed her two nearest branches. She said: When my account was transferred to a third branch, I found the service wanting. When an institution stops being the friendly bank around the corner, you may as well go to a telephone banking service. I'm delighted with First Direct."

espite the ferocious competition from telephone-based services, the traditional banks are still picking up disaffected customers from each other. This year more than 130,000 people opened an account with First Direct, some 150,000 joined the Halifax, and Barclays says it has had an "outstanding year", attracting around one million new customers.

The other high street names are reticent to disclose figures they describe as "financially sensitive information", pertheir competitors. All banks go to great lengths

to advertise the simplicity of moving your account, offering various incentives. Barclays, for example, gives new customers five £2 vouchers to be spent at the cinema, while First Direct has mailing list campaigns offering new customers £15. Most banks say your new

paid into your account will account will be ready within a have to be contacted. NatWest says it will make month if all goes well, al-though the Halifax says that all the direct debit changes and set up new standing two months is more realistic. orders within two days. But as Whatever the delay, changing most of these changes involve your current account requires a lot more effort than filling in a third party, it will take a lot a form and signing on the longer before you can say dotted line and many people goodbye to your old bank. But the speed with which you can are put off by the paperwork. close your old account can According to a survey by Which? some 35 per cent of often depend on how much people thinking of moving notice your employer requires to transfer your salary. You banks believe the process is too complicated, while 31 per might have to wait a month to cent admitted that they could transfer your salary, in which case moving your account can not be bothered. Barclays and the Halifax take a lot longer.

However long it takes, most are the fastest when it comes to sending out bank cards and banks advise new customers chequebooks. It takes the Halinot to close their old accounts fax two to three days and until the teething problems are over. Having two accounts can Barclays less than five days. be confusing, so planning ahead and keeping track of Payments from a salary or a pension, have to be transpayment changes and the balances is imperative. ferred. Direct debits and

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The amount of help you get will depend on your new bank. TSB and Barclays will actually make all the transfers themselves. Most banks, however, will issue new customers with an information pack containing details of what to do and

who to contact. Both Lloyds and First Direct offer a free overdraft facility of £250 during the period of transition. Some banks have also promised to pay for their mistakes. Midlands and the Co-operative Bank pay their customers £10 for a mistake. and they do happen. The Coop makes, on average, 600 mistakes a menth.

Other incentives offered by banks include discounts on their other products. Midland offers a 2 per cent discount on personal loans within the first six months, and the Halifax will give new customers a £30 cashback on buildings

insurance. Building societies, such as 216 8801.

new current account customers with better interest rates. Even, accounts under £2,000 earn 1.25 per cent interest per month on average I per cent higher than most current

RIPLE Any bank will tell you how much it values customers. Barclays prides itself on spot-ting customers who look as though they might leave and persuading them to change their minds. It has a 10 per cent success rate, but the bank still loses 8 per cent of its customers a year, half of those through death. Pauline Hesketh, new cus-

tomer manager at First Direct, emphasises that moving banks to get better service is worth the temporary inconvenience. "Many people think moving banks is a scary thing. There is a fear of transfer. But if you are not getting the service you want, then move. If you take control and do it all at your own pace there should not be a problem."

Those prepared to move often go from one of the market leaders to another. First Direct may have broken the merry-go-round by poaching customers off Barclays, Lloyds, NatWest and Midland, but despite the increase in competition on the high street the public are still reluctant to switch.

As a result most people stick to the big four, even though the Which? survey revealed that they were the most dissatisfied customers. Common complaints include impersonal service inadequate facilities, high charges and poor interest rates. Those who do move go elsewhere because of problems they have had with a bank rather than because they

can get a better deal.
Brian Capon, of the British Bankers Association, said: "People are more prepared to move nowadays than they used to be. Customers are more aware. But often they will only change because they are particularly unhappy about something."

#### MOVING TIPS

Salary or pension. Ask your employer how long it takes to change payments to your new account. Give them your new details but allow be made. It could take a minimum of a month to make these changes.

Standing orders and direct debits. Make sure you have enough funds in your new account when transferring standing orders and direct debits. Remember it may take a while for your salary to be paid into your new account. You will need to contact all the companies who you pay by direct debit and give them

your new bank details. It is advisable to cancel your old standing orders before passing on the details of all the people or organisations you are paying in this way to your new bank. This will help you to make sure that payment is

not made twice. ■ Take control. Banks do help new customers to move from another bank, but it is best to check both your accounts regularly to see whether your instructions are being carried out and payments are going through correctly. Do not rely on the bank entirely. The sooner a mistake is spotted the easier it is to put right.

For further information, ring for a free British Bankers Association Factsheet on 0171



# Are you in need of a little protection?

S tock markets showed their dark side last month knocking £1 billion off the value of investments held in Peps and more than £10 billion from funds held in unit trusts, it was revealed this week. Although in the UK there was no repetition of the crash that hit investors in October 1987, general market instability was enough to devalue Pep holdings from £35.8 billion to £34.8 billion and push unit trust investments down from £162.8 billion to £152.7 billion.

Before you become too depressed though, it is worth bearing in mind that both Peps and unit trusts are still well ahead of their level 12 months ago (£23.8 billion and £128.9 billion respectively) and that the stock market is still reckoned to be the best place for growing your

money over the long term.

However, there is no doubt that the going is getting tougher. With fears that economic meltdown in the Far East could lead to a general downturn in world stock markets investors could be wise to consider a change in strategy.

One result of this sea change is likely to be the growing popularity of so-called protected funds. These limit the amount of losses that investors can sustain in falling stock markets, a useful trait if the former Asian "tigers" export their recession to the West.

Around a dozen unit trusts currently offer investors this kind of protection by promising to limit losses to between zero and 5 per cent over a given period, such as three, six or 12 months. A common approach is to protect 95 per cent of investors' capital over three months. At the beginning of each quarter a new floor price is set, below which the fund will not fall, no matter what happens to the

Instability of global markets highlights the

advantages of securing a financial safety net,

says Gavin Lumsden

markets. This enables investors to lock in gains that could otherwise be swept away

For example, if markets fell 15 per cent in a quarter, the most that an investor in the above fund could lose is 5 per cent. However, some funds use the precipice approach. If markets fail to rise or fall ghtly the fund will automatically default to a 5 per cent loss.

Nevertheless, protected funds can be a useful stepping stone for first-time investors who are used to the security of a building society. However, more experienced investors can also benefit by protecting the gains they achieved in more bullish markets.

Fund managers achieve this protection in two ways. The first does not involve buying shares at all, which might seem strange for a stock market investment. Funds such as the top-performing Prolific Objective Limited Risk Equity and Govett UK Safeguard will put up to 95 per cent of your money in cash or fixed-interest vehicles where they are safe and earn interest. The rest is spent on options linked to indices, such as the FTSE 100, which provide exposure to stock market growth without buying the underlying stocks.

Alternatively, fund managers do buy shares and will then buy a put, another form of derivative, to provide protection against a fall in markets. Funds such as Govett UK Equity Safeguard (note the difference) and NatWest Safeguard take this approach, which enables the funds to be set into the true fees chefter of a Rec be put into the tax-free shelter of a Pep.

All this protection comes at a price. Most of these funds do not yield a dividend (except Prolific Objective), even though they are invested in shares that do. Reinvesting dividends constitutes a third of the total return you can expect from the stock market over the long term. On top of this, protected funds are relatively expensive, charging around 5.5 per cent initial and 1.25 per cent annual

Although the locking in of gains offsets these expenses to a certain extent, even the managers of successful protected funds admit they only provide 80-90 per cent of total stock market returns. Over the long term this could have a detrimental effect, but on a shorter time scale could be less significant.

The Close UK Escalator 95 unit trust has been a good example of the advan-tage of locking in over the past three years. While the FTSE 100 has fallen 4.2 per cent and the average UK unit trust has slipped by 1 per cent, the Close fund has contained losses by rising a slight 0.3 per cent. Over one year it has turned £1,000 into £1,211.93, not bad considering the FISE 100 bull run would have added only £70 more. The Prolific fund did even tter, returning £1,237.08.

For further information contact Prolific Objective on 0171-280 3700; Close Fund Management on 0800 268824; AIB Govett Unit Trusts on 0845 300 9090.



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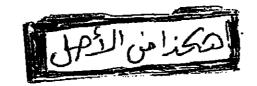
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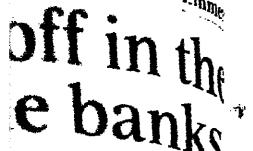
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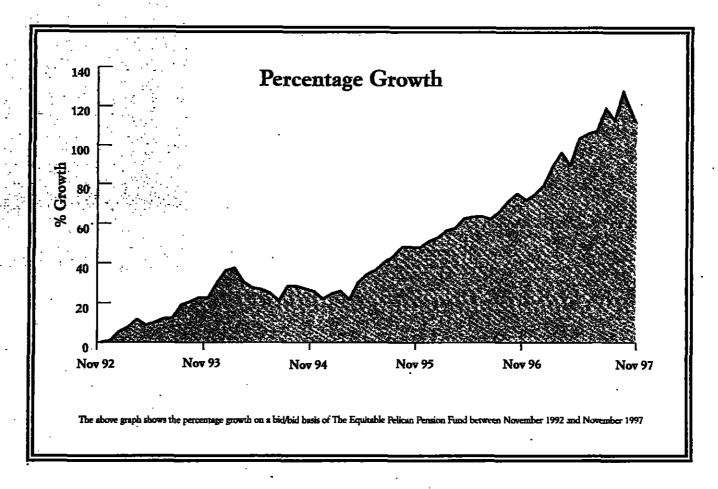
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\*FPR - Unit-linked Pension Survey, September 1997

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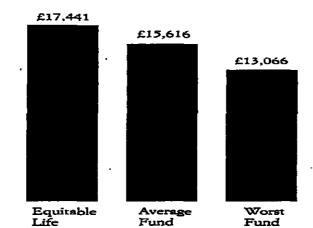
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\*\* Actual open market option as at 1 July 1997 Money Management October 1997

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Source:Planned Savings, October 1997

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The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125 is Tom White.

# محدا من رلامل

# Is Mr Manek just too good to be true?



s Jayesh Manek the man from a small Ruislip pharmacy who beat the City pinstripes hands down at their own game? Or is he the newcomer without a track record inviting people to invest at a time of great stock market uncertainty?

Investors now have the chance to take a punt on Mr Manek, who this week unveiled his Imro-authorised Peppable unit trust to compete against City glants such as Schroders and M&G. Such is the Manek "buzz" that talk of the trust taking £100 million — unheard of for an unknown company — is gaining ground. Already more than 20,000 vestors have requested information. But investment advisers, while sharing in the excitement, are warning clients to tread cautiously.

The Manek investment fairytale began in 1994 when he entered The Sunday Times fantasy investment league. He became a stock market sensation when his notional investment of £10 million soured to £502 million, earning him prize money of £100,000. Then next year he did it again. Against 14,000 other entrants after a change in the rules, he turned the £10 million into £57.5 million. The City took notice. Mr Manek

was chased by headhunters offering lucrative salaries to join big institu-tions. But Mr Manek brushed them aside, convinced that the big investor atmosphere would crush his flair. Then in July 1995 he received an

offer he could not refuse. He was approached by the revered investasked him to manage £5 million of of his fantasy fund will almost cer-

#### Patrick Collinson looks at the man behind a much-hyped new fund

his personal fortune. So happy was Sir John with the results that a year later he added another £5 million. Since then the total investment has grown to £13 million, all of which

vill go into the new unit trust. However, the picture of the small high street chemist dispensing share tips amid the paracetamol is not entirely correct — he admits he has not worked behind the counter for seven years. The Manek family built a chain of eight pharmacies, includ-ing a site at Charing Cross station in London, since bought by Boots.

In 1990 he was in talks to create a new national chain of chemists with a view to a stock market flotation. Today, even after selling half of his pharmacies to Boots and Superdrug, Mr Manek's company still has a £3.5 million a year turnover.
"I started a business from scratch

over 17 years ago. It gives me a good feel for businesses which are at certain stages in their growth, with figures such as cashflow telling me a lot," said Mr Manek, a firm believer in company fundamentals rather than the bigger economic picture. "It's pointless trying to time the market. People spend too much time worrying about the market rather than individual stocks."

Investors hoping that Mr Manek will match the phenomenal returns

tainly be disappointed. He admits he has taken a lower-risk approach to managing Sir John's £10 million and that the target of the new fund will be cautiously to outperform the FTSE. When you take on someone else's money, you become very cautious. The principles are the same, but you start balancing the risk/reward ratio

differently."

He intends to stay out of the City and will manage the new fund from premises in Ruislip. The biggest advantage I have is flexibility. I am not restricted by parameters, bench-marks and house views which mean many excellent fund managers cannot act independently."

is skill is not about picking stocks at rock-bottom prices

— bottom fishing in stock market parlance - but hitching a ride on those which are already rising. He picks Blacks Leisure, the sports retailer, as an example, "You could see the transition the company was going through with the success of First Sport. The directors started buying when the shares were at 60p. Eight weeks later they were at 180p. They had gone up by three times and yet I bought at that point. I bought some more when they were at 300p. They are now about 470p." His view is that if a concept works across 40, stores, there is no reason why it



cannot work in 400, keeping the share price momentum going.

He admits that running a trust with 35-40 stocks will be new territory, as he has focused on just three to four shares in the past and that he has no formal track record.

But he points to his success as an adviser to the India Value investment trust, which is up 9 per cent over the past 18 months in spite of a sharp fall in the Bombay market. It compares well against the 14 per cent fall in a rival Indian investment trust run by Flemings in the same period.

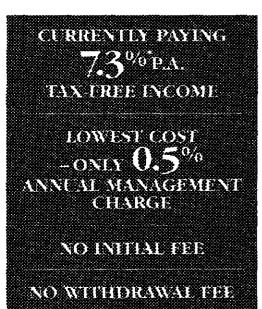
Other rivals point out that his soccess with Sir John's money is matched or bettered by many other managers. If Sir John had invested in a Perpetual trust, it would also have returned £13 million, while the Slater Growth fund would have

achieved about £18 million. Mr Manek is, however, a modest man who knows his limitations. He admits to his mistakes, such as a disastrous purchase of shares in Fisons. He paid £5 a share, and bought more even after they had fallen to £2.45. His hoped-for takeover bid appeared — but at only about £2 a share. "I had become too attached to the stock. Its performance became a personal thing. I'd be much more ruthless now."

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Weekend Money asked a number of investment advisers to give their views on Mr Manek's new fund. Some were very enthusiastic, while others took a more cautious line.

■ Graham Hooper, investment director of Chase de Vere Investments

"I do have a number of concerns. What is the financial back-up behind the company? What is the track record? It is a great story but a bit of a tricky one. He has not got a material track record and we would have to sit down and talk with him before recommending

this to clients. "I really hope that it does well, it could shake the City up, but it's not the thing for a first-timer moving money out of a building society."

Mark Dampier of Churchill Investments

"He comes with some great credentials, and investment advisers cannot ignore it. But I would like to see the whites of his eyes before I recommend it. A lot of people will not buy a fund unless it has a five-year track record, although I am more willing to look at a new launch.

"I'm genuinely interested in it and there is no reason why he cannot do well, but I do wonder what it is that is unique about his stock

John Spiers, chairman of BESt Investments

"I would be a little nervous if he has made his money in small cap stocks - can he replicate that with large caps? I would want to see what sort of resources he has to back him up. What

happens if he falls under a

A company Schroders can wheel out another ten great fund managers, but can this com-pany? Normally I would not touch this sort of thing with a bargepole, but I am impressed by the connection with Sir John Templeton. The fact that he added in more money after his first investment makes

■ Chris Wicks of Kidson Impey Scott Lang

me more comfortable."

"It is rather an unfortunate time to launch a new fund. We are only doing a very limited amount of equity investment and are advising clients to sit on cash while the market is in

The fact that Sir John Templeton has put cash in is a pretty strong endorse-ment, but we would be very selective about recommending it. It shouldn't be your first investment, but if you have extra funds and you want a bit of fun, then why

Amanda Davidson of Holden Mechan

"I think it's fantastic. People love success stories, and if he can replicate this for private investors, he is bound to get a lot of interest. I would not regard it as a core holding but I would certainly consider putting a

"You could invest the bit you can afford to risk - this carries a heavy wealth warning — but if you look elsewhere in the world. where are you going to put your risk money? Look what's happening in Japan, the Far East and other emerging markets."

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ou move pension

# be true?

WHAT THE EXPERTS THE

# John Givens explains why credit unions are becoming so popular today and how they operate



#### From a small beginning

edcliffe Action Group, Redcume Action to based in Bristol, is hoping to set up its own credit union to help to encourage people living in the city centre community to save regularly.

The action group, which will become one of 50 new credit unions established in the UK every year, hopes that a union will give residents a new sense of purpose in a conurbation which has had its problems in recent years, including drug abuse. car theft, violence and burglary.

mitted to the credit union idea, is expanding the Christmas club principle it set up in November last year where members pay in £5 a week and will get £260 at the beginning of December to help to cover the cost of the festive season.

Irene Mays, the chairwoman, who runs the group with the help of David White, the secretary, both pictured above, said: "People will be able to pay in as little or as much as they can afford each week, even just 50p, and as long as they have saved for at

loan which they can repay each week at the same rate as they are saving."

Ms Mays added: "We have applied to use a couple of rooms in a former doctor's surgery on the estate and by the time we get the go-ahead to start having regular meet-ings, we will have obtained more information on how to run it and hopefully will get the credit union started before Christmas.\*

The group's biggest challenge will be to attract the extra 13 members it needs to satisfy the credit union regueight members already com- they will be able to apply for a bership of 21 people.

# Back to basics of mutuality

D uilding societies and insurance union as long as each member can prove he has a common bond with the others. For example, working for the shipload but as long as credit unions exist the benefits of mutuality will still be on offer to savers and borrowers.

Credit unions are institutions that go back to the very basics of mutual status, offering people judged to have a common bond the chance to save on a regular basis and earn interest rates above those they would normally find in the high street, as well as the

possibility of being able to borrow funds on preferential terms. About 215,000 people are members of one of the 585 credit unions in Britain which hold assets of more than £116 million. The rapid growth in the indus-try is partly due to legislation intro-duced last year which relaxed some of the regulations credit unions have to work under, aithough another key reason for the rising number of unions in recent years has been a combination of low interest rates paid on savings accounts by banks and building societies and the often punitive rates charged by specialist lenders targeting borrowers deemed to be high-risk.

The law allows any number of people to get together and form a credit same company, being a member of the same club or society or even living in the same area would be considered

justification for forming a credit union.
The UK's biggest union is made up of more than 11,000 employees of Strathclyde council, while the largest and oldest community-based group is also in Scotland, having nearly 5,000 members all living on the same housing estate in Clydebank.

The minimum number of members needed to set up a credit union is 21 although, according to the Association of British Credit Unions, one of the four bodies representing the credit union movement in the UK, a new group should be looking to recruit about 300 members within five years to give it a chance to build up its resources. A one-off fee of £310 is payable at the start to the Registry of Friendly Societies, a division of the Building Societies Commission, which is responsible for

regulating credit unions. In addition, each union pays £25 a year to file its accounts with the Registry of Friendly Societies and must also take out an annual fidelity insurance bond which covers the group against fraud or theft. This is linked to the size of the assets and is likely to cost no more than £100 in the early years.

Interest on savers' funds is paid in

the form of an annual dividend from the credit union's profits after costs. These are divided among members on a pro rata basis on the size of their deposit. However, it is with borrowing where the real benefit of credit unions comes to the fore. Many of the people who save through credit unions, particularly those that are community based, are on low incomes and have difficulty getting loans or overdrafts through banks and building societies.

herefore they are often forced to turn to the specialist lenders which will load the amount of interest payable on a loan to reflect the belief that they are higher than normal risk. In some cases annual rates are as much as 160 per cent compared with the average rate at leading banks or building societies of about 15 per cent. As long as a member has been saving for at least three months, a standard credit union can offer a loan

of up to £5,000 — or £10,000 for larger

unions - although it must keep 10 per

amount a member can borrow is normally limited to five times the sum saved and cannot exceed 1.5 per cent of

the union's total assets. The decisions on borrowing are taken by a committee which is demo-cratically elected by the members and the committee cannot charge interest on the funds at more than I per cent a month, which is equal to an APR of 12.68 and as competitive as any loan you could find from the leading names

in the high street. Although some of the biggest credit unions use credit reference agencies to check out people applying for loans, most do not and base the decision on the individual circumstances and integrity of the member. This means that anyone with a patchy financial history can still be offered a loan if they can convince the committee that they have the ability and intention to repay it.

Anyone getting into arrears is sent a series of three reminders. If the problem continues they are asked to attend an interview with the credit union committee to discuss the problem.

Association of British Credit Unions (ABCU): 0171 582 2626.

#### HOW TO RUNA CREDIT UNION

At least 21 members must be willing to join the credit union. ■ A one-off joining fee

of £310 is payable to the Registry of Friendly Societies. ■ An additional £25 is

charged each year when accounts are filed. Fidelity insurance

must be taken out to protect against theft and Members must appoint a committee which

loan applications and other issues. ■ Members can ask for a loan after they have

will make decisions on

been saving for at least 13 consecutive weeks. ■ Loans of up to £5,000 can be agreed, or £10,000

for the larger credit unions. ■ Borrowing is usually

limited to a maximum of five times the amount the member has saved. ■ No loan can be for

more than 1.5 per cent of the credit union's total Interest on loans is pegged at a maximum of

l per cent a month, 12.68 per cent APR. ■ Unions must keep 10

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### Financial services 'kitemar

ike household appliances, car windows and plastic toys, the information consumers get on their pensions and mortgages will also be subject to a Quality Mark similar to the British Kitemark. In a new initiative, launched this week by the Money Management Council, a charity dedicated to providing consumer education on money matters, literature distributed by the financial services industry will receive a Quality Mark if the information is

clear and accurate It will apply initially to generic information on financial services, but council members hope to extend it to all forms of financial marketing material. The scheme has been welcomed by the industry and the Financial Services Authority, the new super-watchdog.

Helen Liddell, the Economic Secretary to the Treasury, also welcomed the scheme, as did Sir Bernard Ingham. Ms

Liddell said: "The problems of home income plans and personal pensions, to name only two of those which feature in my mailbag, have left many people apprehensive about approaching the financial services industry. This is a time when people need as much information as possible about how to make the most of their financial resources. I believe the Money Management Council has shown foresight and tenacity in bringing the Quality Mark into being.

The cost of financial igonorance is a startling £39 billion a year, according to Marie Jennings, chairman and founder of the Money Management Council. It is also estimated that the average person loses £50,000 in a lifetime through lack of knowledge on money matters.

At the launch, timed to coincide with National Consumer Week, Ms Jennings said: There is no doubt that much financial information is confusing, if not

frightening. We intend to overcome this with our new Quality Mark scheme." However, the scheme will work on a

purely voluntary basis. Although there is no compulsion for companies to submit material, the council hopes that the credibility associated with the mark will encourage financial providers to send in material. The scheme will enable consumers to know that any material carrying the Quality Mark is unbiased, factually correct and easy to understand. Sir Bernard, former press secretary to

Margaret Thatcher, better known for his notoriety as a communicator, said: "In my opinion, there is nothing wrong with a clear and direct approach. I welcome this initiative to increase transparency in money matters." For further information ring the Money Management Council on 0171-736 1163.

Susan Emmett

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# Tim rose to his online fitness challenge

Former pharmaceutical ex-pert Tim Kyndt had little choice but to throw himself in at the deep end when he set up an online health and fitness club last year.

The 37-year-old left his job as a strategy development manager with SmithKline Beecham in January 1996 to set up CyberSport, an Internet-based system which allows people to plug their exercise machines into their computers and compete on screen against other keep fit fanatics around the world.

Although he established the business with two colleagues the responsibility for selling the company's services fell firmly at Tim's feet and he had little choice but to get out and about to try to get people to buy the online service.

He said: "After doing a lot of market research we rang

around the major companies to set up appointments with people who could make decisions. When we had got a foot in the door we went along with a comprehensive business plan and presented them should get involved in the

project.

"In total we made more than 70 pitches to companies operating in the health and fitness market, and to banks and other financial institutions, and we now have 15 partners very active in promoting the online service.

Although it tested his abilities, his hard work paid off and as sales increased the company was boosted by winning a £50,000 Information Society Initiative award in a scheme sponsored by The Sunday Times.

JOHN GIVENS



Tim Kyndt made more than 70 pitches to companies in the health and fitness market

John Givens continues our series for those intending to become self-employed

# Sales skills make or break

ntil now it has all been done for you. No need to worry about where the work is coming from because as an employee all you need to concern yourself with is having enough to fill your day and leave the problems of winning business to someone else.

But now you've decided to go it alone things are going to change dramatically and the responsibility for selling your products or services is yours and yours alone. Selling is one of the major challenges of selfemployment and unless you an award-winning super-salesman previously. the learning curve will be steep. A reputable sales training course would help, although at £300 to £400 a day they are expensive; so understanding the basics might be the best place to start.

■ Talk to the decision maker. If you try to sell to a person who does not have the authority to make a decision to buy, the chances are you are wasting your time.

■ Be yourself. The notion that sharp-suited, fast-talking salesmen make the world go round is simply not true. Most people are put off by Arthur

Daley types who give you the hard sell and expect you to sign on the dotted line there and then. Avoid play acting and always be yourself.

■ Be prepared. This doesn't just mean making sure you know everything about what you are marketing, but also that you have all the back-up support you need. For example, a company brochure or other product literature will be key to getting your sales message across, although you can expect to spend at least £1,000 for 500 copies of a colour, four-page, A4 publication. Leaflets are less expensive, costing around £200 for I,000 colour A4 flyers; much

less for black and white. Samples of your work can also go a long way to convincing a sceptical customer to buy, and also make sure you are armed with price lists, product specifications, delivery information and any other facts and figures you can offer to a potential buyer.

Understand the customer. If you know very little about the company or person you are trying to sell to, the chances of failing leap. Make sure you do some research beforehand.

■ Know your lines. When you meet someone who might be interested in buying what you have to sell you will need to give a sales presentation. You should make your pitch in a confident and well-structured manner, and also be

able to answer any questions. Successful selling is not about talking but about listening; that way you will hear what the customer wants. If you can satisfy the requirement, you'll almost certainly make the sale. A sales presentation should typically mean you spend one third of the time

talking and the other two thirds listening.

Your unique selling point. All businesses need to have a unique seiling point, commonly referred to as a USP. This is simply one thing you can offer which is better than any of your competitors. Your USP could be one of a number of things - the cheapest, the best quality, the fastest delivery, the most comprehensive guarantee or the most flexible payment terms. Whatever it is, learn it and make sure your customers know it.

■ Overcoming objections. As any diehard salesman will tell you, overcoming people's objections for not wanting to buy is the biggest test you will face. Often, an apparent objection is really hiding the real reason why a customer says no. so find out exactly what the real problem is with careful questioning.

For example, if someone says your product is too expensive but you know it is one of the most competitively priced on the market, by politely asking questions you might discover that the real reason for the objection is that the customer cannot afford to buy at the moment but could in

identified the real problem, you might decide to give the customer the product now on the understanding that payment is due after 60 days.

Ask for the sale. One of the main reasons why self-em-ployed people fail to win business is that they are scared to ask for the sale. Despite spending time and effort on a sales presentation, most people still shy away from asking "will you buy what I am selling?". This is partly because of the fear of rejection and partly because it can be embarrassing. But if you don't ask, you risk losing the business.

■ Keep your promises. If you have told a customer you will do something, make sure you stick to the commitment. Failing to carry out promises is a certain way of losing the support of an existing client or the interest of a potential customer. Even if you have problems doing what you said you would do, at least let the customer know rather than bury your head in the sand.

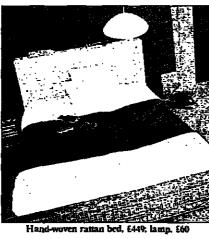
■ Don't give up. The only certain thing about trying to sell whatever you have to offer is that you will suffer setbacks.

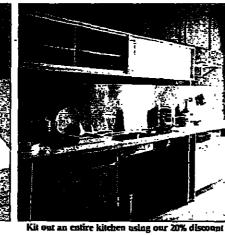
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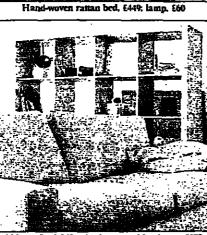
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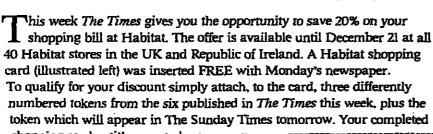
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**CHANGING TIMES** 

# Hardern's three-pronged attack

arpetbagging is not dead, it seems.

Michael Hardern, the eccentric freelance butler, is once again campaigning to get on the boards of three leading building societies to try to force

them to convert. Mr Hardern, who heads an organis-ation called Members for Conversion, is attempting to be elected to the boards of the Bradford & Bingley, Britannia and Chelsea. All three claim they are firmly committed to remaining mutual building societies — the total combined assets of the three societies is £40 billion, and the

societies have nearly 4.6 million members. Earlier this year, Mr Hardern and four other pro-conversion candidates failed to join the board of the Nationwide, the UK's biggest building society. Mr Hardern's ultimate aim was to force the society to float. Flotation of the Nationwide could have been worth up to £2,000 per member.

At the time, the vote against Mr

Hardern was decisive. Only one in three of those that voted were in favour of Mr Hardern's election. However, his campaign was marred by a series of bizarre events, including a sudden change of mind over his views on conversion. Many believe that his eccentric behav-

iour in the run up to the vote contributed to the campaign's failure.

Some of those who voted against Mr Hardern were not voting in favour of the mutuality much coveted by the Nationwide board. Instead, they were voting wide board. Instead, they were voting against the election of people who they believed did not have the credentials for board membership.

he failure of the vote meant that the carpetbaggers went into abeyance for a little while. Mr Hardem's renewed campaign is bound to stir up interest in carpetbagging once again. Mr Hardern claims that if the three building societies were forced to convert, members

could receive payouts of up to £2,000 a

During the summer, carpetbagging activity was so intense that the Nationwide was forced to close its doors. This society also recently began to force those opening accounts to sign away to charity their rights to any windfall after flotation.

The building societies under threat from Mr Hardern fear that a renewed bout of carpetbagging activity will lead to further disruptions in the service they offer their customers. In order for his board nominations to go ahead, Mr Hardern needs signatures from 50 of members of each of his target building ocieties. The elections will take place at the beginning of next year.

The minimum amounts required to open accounts with the Britannia, Chesea and Bradford & Bingley are £2,000, £2,500 and £500 respectively.

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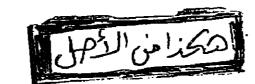
However, a handful of people

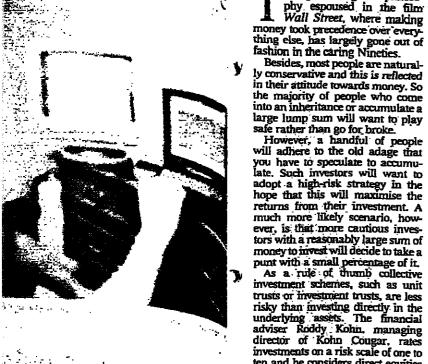
ten and he considers direct equities to be off the scale. "You only have to

look at the performance of some

well-known blue chip shares to see

how risky this strategy can be. Some





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# he "greed is good" philosophy espoused in the film wall Street, where making money took precedence over everything else, has largely gone out of fashion in the carried Nineties.

# Fair game for fortune hunters

falling to a low of £12.16. Shares are now back up to £15.30 but clearly investors who bought at the peak are now facing substantial losses. However, if you choose the right company you can make significant gains.
Unquoted and smaller com-

panies are even more risky, but if you choose the right company you can make a killing. Stephen Lansdown, chairman of Hargreaves Lansdown, said: "Penny shares, which have a share price of less than 10p, can do very well but you are counting on one company to come up trumps. Investors must also remember that these markets are often fairly illiquid - it is easy to get into them but getting out is a different matter."

Having said this, some collective investment schemes - in particular those investing in specialist areas or single countries can be fairly risky.
Ian Millward, investment mar-

keting manager at Chase de Vere. said: "If you choose a fund that is spread across both continents and 15 to 20 markets, then obviously the risk is less. If you choose a single shares have more ups and downs than a proficient yo-yo operator."

For example, shares in HSBC Holdings, one of the largest banking groups in the world, rose to £23.69 earlier this year before country fund, you could see some fantastic returns if that country does well, but performance could be abysmal." Other potentially risky areas include Europe, North America and smaller companies.

Hazel Spink assesses the risk of collective investment schemes



Gordon Gecko showed the ugly side of 1980s society with his "greed is good" philosophy in Wall Street

Derivatives, such as futures, options and warrants, can offer the prospect of spectacular growth, but they are also highly risky. In a sense, you are gambling on stock market movements.

Put simply, futures are the obligation to buy or sell shares or

certain date. Investors are obliged to buy or sell at the chosen time and price even if the market has moved against them.

With options, investors pay a small deposit, known as a premium, which gives them the right to buy or sell at a certain price on a

to exercise their option if the market has moved against them. In this case, they simply lose their deposit. Warrants are effectively long-dated

Govett Geared UK Index unit trust is a high-risk, high-return unit trust. "The fund uses futures on the FTSE 100 index to achieve twice the

downside," said Ian Morley, director of AIB Govett. "When markets are strong this fund will roar ahead, but if they are weak you

However, put options are taken out so that in the event of substan-

all their money.

The fund has performed extremely well over both one and three years. For example, over the three years to October 31, 1997, the fund rose by 130.96 per cent, compared with a sector average for the equity income and growth sector of 57.57 per cent. "This shows the power of derivatives when used more speculatively," said Mr Morley. However, over one month to October 31, the fund fell 8.1 per cent compared with a sector average of just 5.8 per cent.

Mr Morley advises even aggres sive investors, who are keen to tap into the growth potential offered by derivatives, to do so via a collective investment scheme. "Generally speaking, it is not advisable for private individuals to trade in futures, options or warrants themselves because these markets move very quickly and if you gear yourself up you could lose a lot of money if you get it wrong."

Some advisers are extremely

sceptical about using derivatives. Mr Kohn said: "Derivatives are highly complex instruments and as soon as you get into this game, you are putting your trust in individuals whose first priority is making

money for themselves."

Certain investment trusts also offer the prospect of high risk in return for potentially high returns. Tim Cockerill, investment director at Whitechurch Securities, said: "If you want to get seriously high-risk then you could go for the capital

shares of a split capital investment Split capital investment trusts offer investors different classes of shares. The safest are zero dividend preference shares which offer investors a predetermined level of

When the investment trust is wound up at the end of its life, the obligations to zero dividend preference shareholders are met first. Then there are income shares which, as their name suggests, offer a high level of income. The capital shares are, in a sense, last in the pecking order on wind-up but they are entitled to all the growth in the trust after the other classes of shareholder have been paid.

Clearly if the trust performs badly the capital shareholders suffer. But if it sparkles, they can do very well. "If the market rose by 10 per cent during the investment period, capital shareholders may well see a return of 30 or 40 per cent. If, on the other hand, it works in reverse they can get clobbered." said Mr Cockerill.

# Most people fail to make sense of Serps

aunched by Baroness Castle of Blackburn in 1978, the state earnings related pensions scheme (Serps), the additional state scheme for employees without company schemes, has never been far from

controversy. Its eventual abolition may be planned by government ministers but until that time millions of people will still need to rely on the system to provide their pensions. Many are having

great difficulty in

calculating what their benefits should be. As the payouts are, at best, modest, this causes great irritation. Various surveys have shown that Serps is the least understood of any type of pension scheme, public or private. Until 1988 every

employee had to contribute to the scheme unless he or she were members of a company pension scheme which provided replacement benefits.

After 1988 it became possible to opt out of Serps into a personal pension. However, for men aged over 50 and women over 45 at the time, opting out was not likely to be worthwhile.

aurice Ducker, a Weekend Money reader from Colchester, Essex, was confident that he knew what his entitlement was. In view of his earnings. Mr Ducker had little doubt that he would receive the maximum benefit under the scheme when he retired

He was therefore surprised to be informed last October by the Department of Social SecHelen Pridham attempts to

clear confusion surrounding the

least understood pension scheme



urity that his Serps entitlement was several pounds less than the maximum published benefit for 1996-97 of £101.44.

After querying the amount, he was told — after a delay of almost 12 months - that he had not made the maximum contributions required. Bearing in mind that he had always earned more than the required amount, this has left him feeling very dissatisfied.

ensions Postbag replies: It was not easy to get to the bottom of Mr Ducker's case, and even then it was hard to believe the reason why he and others like him will not receive the maximum benefit. But first a word of explanation about how a Serps pension is calculated.

It is not based on an employee's total earnings. It is related only to those earnings which fall between the lower and upper earnings limits for national insurance contributions purposes. These limits are increased each year in line with inflation. The current lower earnings limit is £62 a week (£3,224 a year) and the upper limit is £465 a week (£24,180 a year).

earning £200 a week this year. for example, would have his or her Serps pension based on £138. Meanwhile, an employee earning £465 or more a week would have his or her pension for the year based on £403, no

earnings were. But the calculations get more complicated because the employee's earnings in the band for each successive year are revalued annually in line with the rise in national average earnings up to state pen-

matter how high the actual

Each revalued year's earnings are then added together and the total is divided by a factor to calculate the average earnings on which the final pension is based. Under the original scheme, the pension was to be worth 25 per cent of a person's average earnings over their 20 best years.

However, radical revisions vere made to Serps in 1988 by the Conservative Government. These cut back pension entitlement to 20 per cent of earnings averaged over an employee's entire working life. However, that change is being phased in and the 25 per cent rule still

April 1999.

Thereafter, the pension will be a reduced proportion of average earnings based on the actual number of years' contributions made between 1978 and a person's pension age until the new benefit system matures around 2030.

Given these complexities, it is clearly not that simple for laymen to calculate their own Serps entitlment, and the Department of Social Security offers a free pensions forecast service for anyone who wants to know how much additional pension they can expect.

All you need to do is ask our local DSS office for form BRI9. However, Mr Ducker's case appeared to be straightforward. His earnings had always been above the upper earnings limit since 1978, so it seemed fairly obvious that he should qualify for the maxi-

The reason he does not is Kafkaesque. Although cy, an offshoot of the DSS, which keeps contribution records, cannot discuss indi vidual cases, John Harthen, a spokesman, explained: "Only those employees who are paid four-weekly, which gives rise to the payment of extra national insurance contributions. will be eligible for the maxi-mum published Serps bene-

Mr Harthen acknowledged that most employees are paid at weekly or monthly intervals and are therefore not eligible. Mr Ducker had been paid

If an insurance company had come up with such an explanation, the chances are that the Government would be naming and shaming it. Perhaps it needs to put its own house in order.

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### Legal guidance for leaseholders

buy their freeholds or extend their leases need not be at the mercy of their landlords, according to a recent report. The comprehensive study by Chartered Surveyors Leasehold Enfranchisement Ltd details how leaseholders can benefit from

a 1993 Act. It outlines how the Leasehold Reform. Housing and Urban Development Act was used to settle 166 claims taken to Leasehold Valuation Tribunals (LVT). The Cost of Buy-ing Your Freehold or Extending Your Lease reveals that LVT valuations tend to be much closer to leaseholders' valuations and much lower than those of landlords.

As LVT decisions are "benchmarks" for future claims, these findings suggest that disputes between leaseholders and landlords over the price for freeholds, lease extensions or landlords' fees will certainly increase.

The 61-page report is available at £25, including postage and packing, from Leasehold Enfranchisement Ltd at 33 St George's Drive, Pimlico. London, SWIV 4DG. Telephone: 0171 821 8820. Extracts can be viewed on the Internet at www.leasehold.co.uk.

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Help is at hand for disgruntled bank customers. The	Irish Permanent 0800 973321 C&G(from 1.12.97)0800 742437 Legal & General Bank 0500 111200 Alliance & Leic BS 0845 6088860
Banking Ombudsman Scheme exists to resolve indi- vidual complaints about	NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS
banking and now offers sev- eral guides outlining the com- plaints procedure.  For a general guide, When	Northern Rock 0800 202121 Investec Bank (UK) 0171-203 1650 Bristol & West 0800 202121 Bristol & West 0800 202121

Northern Rock 0800 202121 Investec Bank (UK) 0171-203 1650 Bristol & West 0800 202121 Bristol & West 0800 202121	Select 90 Base Plus Postal 30 Fix for Six	90 day p 1yr bond 30 day p 6 month	£10,000 £2,001 £10,000 £ 5,000
FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account .	Notice of term	Deposit
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505 Investec Bank (UK) 0171 203 1650 Mansfield BS 01246 202055 Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	Premier+Feeder	5 year 5 year 5 year 5 year	£3,000 £9,000 £500 £2,000
US) CRE	DIT CARDS I	SEST BL	IYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS

FIXED RATE

Birmingham Mid

Bradford & Bingley Bradford & Bingley

Direct Line 0181 680 9966

Capital One Direct 0800 216252

Alliance & Leic Grp 0990 626262

Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505 Investec Bank (UK) 0171 203 1650 Mansfield BS 01246 202055 Yorkshire BS 0800 378836		5 year 5 year 5 year 5 year	£9,000 £500	7.85 Yly 7.85 Yly 7.75 Yly 7.65 Yly
D/S/L CRE	DIT CARDS B	EST BUY	S	
CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Intere per mont		Fee per & annum
Capital One Bank 0800 669000 Co-operative Bank 0800 109000 Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829100	Visa Advantage Visa MasterCard/Vis		C 7.90%	N Nil
£? PERS	ONAL LOANS	BEST BU	rys .	
PERSONAL LOANS	APR	Monthly pa with insura	yment on £5	,000 for 3yrs no insurance

NB, A = Minimum age 22 years, B = Withdrawals via Bank Clearing System, <math>C = no interest free period, F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable), N = Introductory rate for a limited period OM = Interest paid on maturity, P = By Post only \* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

7,780 100.17

7.760 100.13

7,760 100.20

12.8%A

12.9%

Minimum

1,000

10,000

10,000

e: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 677)

120.50

149.75

167.50

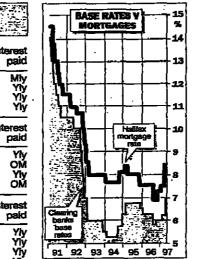
PIBS

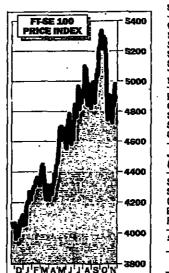
Gross coupon

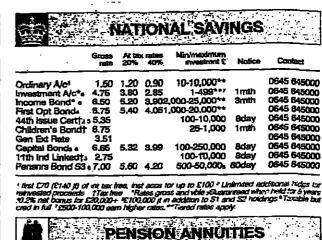
9.38%

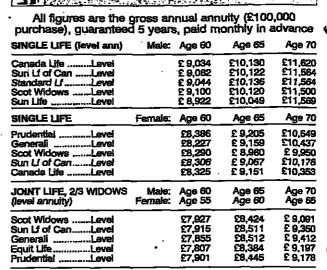
11.580%

13.000%









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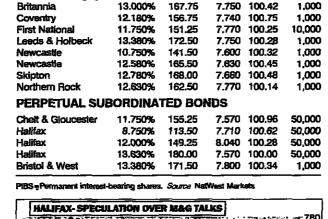
0'N 3800	Star	listics co	mpiled by	Jacq	ui Spray
	%	FIR	ST-TIME	Bu	YERS
	Lender	Interest rate %	Loan - size	Max %	Notes
to 1.2.00	Building Societ Newbury 01635 43676	ties 4.85	£30-100k	95	3% discount for 1 year
discount rears fix	Mansfield 01246 202055	2. <b>2</b> 0	225-250k	90	6% dsc-6m 1.49% 6 mth, 0.99% 1 yr
1112	Clay Cross 01246 862120	5.25	£15-100k	95	3.0% discount for 1 year
tor 6 mth, sc-6 miths to 1.11.98	Banks Bnk of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.77% disc 6 mths 3% disc 6 mths
	Midland Bank 0800 494999	5.99	to £150k	-95	Fixed to 31.1.00

Larger landars, loans and first-time buyers lables by Blay's Guides Ltd. (01753 890482)

	ANN	UAL INCOME					
	Rates as at June 19, 1997						
	Investment (£)	Сотрапу	Standard Rate (%)				
1 Year							
	5,000	AIG Life 6.38					
	10,000	GE Fin Assur	6.75				
	20,000	Hambro Assured	6.80				
	50,000	Hambro Assured	6.80				
2 Years							
	1,000	Hambro Assured	6.00				
	10,000	Hambro Assured	6.80				
	20,000	Hambro Assured	6.80				
	50,000	Hambro Assured	6.80				
3 Years							
	1.000	Hambro Assured	5.90				
•	3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.30				
	20,000	Hambro Assured	6.75				
	50,000	Hambro Assured	6.80				
4 Years							
	1.000	Hambro Assured	6.10				
	3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.15				

**GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS** 

1,000 10,000 Hambro Assured 6.05 Hambro Assured e: Chamberlain de Broë 0171-434 4222. Net rates. Income and cap



theit & Glouc	ester	11.750%	155.25	7.570	100.96	50,000	<u>/01/</u>
<i>lalifa</i> x lalifax		8.750% 12.000%	113.50 149.25	7.71 <i>0</i> 8.040	100.62 100.28	50,000 50,000	Lender
latifax Bristol & West		13.630% 13.380%	180.00 171.50	7.570	100.00 100.34	50,000	Building Societies Scarborough
BS - Permanent			. Source Nat R M&G TAI		elts		0990 133149 Nottingham Imper. 0115 9817220
W		Maa		m.A.	I <del>lais</del> 17+463	780 740	Banks
Jun		Aug	Sep	Oct	W	700	Bank of Ireland 01189 510100 Bristol & West 0117 979 2222

167.50	7,760		10,000	0800 302010	3.75	IO ZOOK	30	for 2 years
167.75	7.750	100.42	1,000	Britannia	5.74	no max	80	2-year fix
156.75	7.740	100.75	1,000	0800 526350				-
151.25	7,770	100.25	10,000	Banks				
172.50	7.750	100.28	1,000	Bank of Ireland	0.99	£20-145k	95	Fixed for 6 mth,
141.50	7.600	100.32	1,000	01189 510100	0.00	04531-	~~	3% disc-6 mths
165.50	7.630	100.45	1,000	Bristol & West 0117 979 2222	2.90	£15-No Max	90	Fixed to 1.11.98
168.00	7.660	100.48	1,000	0111 914 2222		IAICTO		
162.50	7.770	100.14	1,000	4 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2		Constant	- a 4- 6	CONTRACTOR OF PROPERTY
ED BO				%	LA	RGER I	OAI	is .
155.25	7.570	100.96	50,000	701	- 3E-3-3 X	2 F-3 [6] 28 . 3		
113.50	7.710	100.62	50,000		Interest	Loan	Max	
149.25	8.040	100.28	50,000	Lender	rate %	size	<u>%</u>	Notes
180.00	7.570	100.00	50,000	<b>Building Societies</b>				
171,50 	7.800	100.34	1,000	Scarborough 0990 133149	0.99	£15-100k	95	7.24% dsc-6 mth 2%-6mth,0.5%-1y
R M&G TA				Nottingham Imper. 0115 9817220	0.75	£25-150k	75	Fixed at 0.75% to 31.1.98
NAW IA		(13 ) (14 )	F\$ 780	Leeds & Holbeck 0113 225 7777	1.20	to £180k	95	7% disc-6 mth 1% disc-1 year
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	MA	775 <b>-</b> 440	740	Banks				
W		Lane.	700	Bank of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	Fixed for 6 mth 3% dec-6 mth
Sep	Oct	V V	660	Bristol & West 0117 979 2222	2.90	£15-no max	90	Fixed at 2.90% to 1.11.98
IINI	LINI	KED II	NSUR	ANCE INVEST	MENT			
				2 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5			X-4-1	<b>发生了生 化二元二二十二</b>

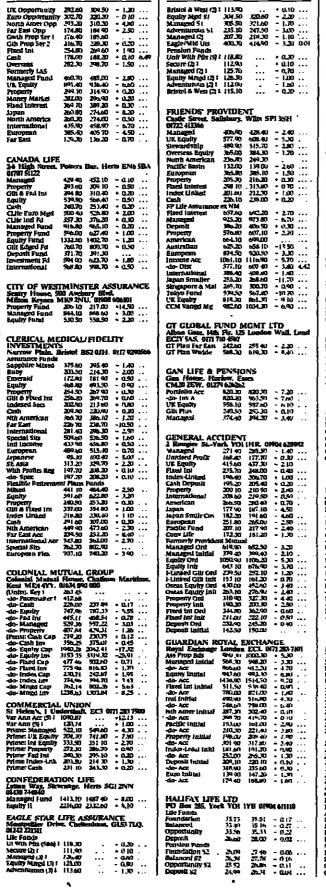
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Name	
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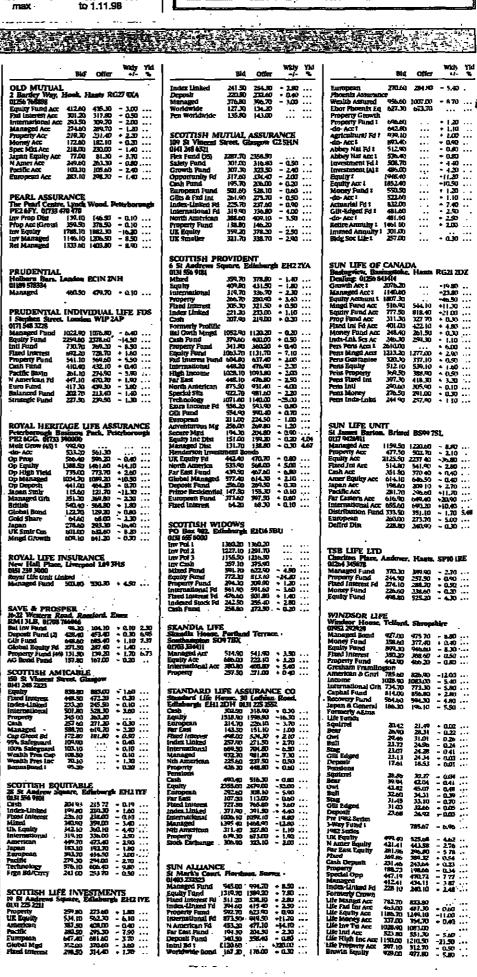
Bid Offer -/- %	Bid Offer */- %					
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE	UK Departurity 292.60 304.50 - 1.20					
Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh, EH12 95E 0131 339 4141	Euro Opportunity 302.70 320.20 - 0 10					
0131 339 9194 Balancel 557.30 589.80 - 4.20	North Amer Opp 293-20 310-30 + 430 Far East Opp 174-80 184-90 + 2-50					
UK Equity 771.10 SI6.00 - 10.60	Carch Prop Ser   176.40   85.60					
Property 454.40 480.90 • 0.40	Gth Prop Ser 2 216.70 229.30 + 0.20 Flaced Int 254.80 269.60 + 140					
Fixed Interest 369.00 390.50 - 0.30	Cash 178.00 (88.20 - 0.10 6.49					
International 434.40 459.70 - 0.50	Decreases 292 To 308 70 - 1.50					
	Formerly IAS Managed Fund 400.70 485.00 - 2.80					
ABBEY LIFE	UN EQUALY #91.40 938.40 - 6.60					
Holdenkurst Road, Bönracungstit	Property 299.10 314.90 • 0.20					
BHS SAL 01202 292573	Money Market 382.00 29:20 + 0.20 Fixed interest 369.70 389.20 + 0.30					
Custodian S4 215.30 225.70 + 0.40	Japan 26080 27460 - 8.20					
Ethical 54   178.20   187.60 • 0.70	North America 250.30 .74.00 - 0.50					
International 54 216.90 228.40 - 1.70 Protected Gib 54 137.10 138.10 - 0.60	[nternational 435.95 458.97 - 6.70 European 385.40 405.70 - 4.50					
Asian Pacific 157.10 165.40 - 1.60	Far East 139.30 136.20 - 0.70					
European \$4 256.30 289.80 - 2.30	l					
Prop Pd Ser 4 448.00 471.00 • 2.80 Equity Ser 4 306.40 322.60 • 2.40	CANADA LIFF					
Man Ser 4 844.40 INS.90 - 5.50	CANADA LIFE 24 High Street Potters Bur. Herto EN6 5BA 0/787 51122					
Comv Ser 4 368.60 388.00 + 0.30	01787 51122   Manused					
Money Ser 4 368.20 387.60 • 0.30 Fixed int Ser 4 4.79.00 462.20 • 0.10	Managed 429 40 452 10 - 0.10 Property 293 60 304 10 - 0.50					
American ter 4 - 914 90 - 957 80 - 1 31	GB(& Fx4.tn) 274.80 310.40 • 0.20					
High Inc Ser 4 954 IO 1004 40 - 7.80 Indexed Inc Ser 4 254 90 264.40 - 0.80 Japan Ser 4 236 IO 248.60 - 6.80	Equity 519.90 Sec.40 - 0.50 Cash 240.70 251.40 + 0.20					
Japan Ser 4 236 10 248.60 - 6.60	CLife Euro Myd S00 40 S3.80 + 2.00					
	\cube\ng ki 357.30 376.20 48.30					
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane. Potters Bar EN6 (A)	Managed Fund 916.80 965.10 - 0.20 Property Fund 946.00 627.40 - 1.00					
0/707 <b>/</b> /2381	Equity Fished 1332.00 1402.70 - 1.20					
Equity Fd Acc 2170.70 2284.90 -20.30	Gilt Educed Fot 760.70 9070.70 + 0.50					
Entropesia Pd Acc 551 lg 580.00 - 2.50 Fixed Int Acc 620.20 652.90 • 1.40	Deposit Fund 371.70 191.30					
Click Minimply Acr. 175 (F) 304 (R) + (145)	[piernational 96/40 978,70 + 0.50					
ing Managed Act 799-20 541-20 - 7.60	1					
int Facility Acr 375 \$0 395.20 - 0.40 Jupan Fund 206.10 216 90 - 7.00	CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE					
N American Acc 90250 529.30 - 0.30	Sentry House, 900 Avebury Blvd.					
Prop Fd Acc 511.80 538.70 + 0.50 Multiple Inv Acc 1317.50 1386.80 - 8.10	CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd. Militan Keynes MK9 2NU, 01908 606101 Property Fund 200 10 217.03 414.50					
	Property Fund 206 to 217.00 +14.50  Managed Fund 844.10 848.60 + 3.00  Equity Fund 530.50 558.50 + 2.20					
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SNI IEL 01793 514514	Managed Fund 844.10 848.60 3.00 Equity Fund 530.50 558.50 + 2.20					
Fud int Dep Acc 421.20 441.40 ~ 0.70 Equity Acc 1868.70 1967.10 ~ 18.20	CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY					
Fud int Dep Acc 421.20 441.40 = 0.70 Equity Acc 1865.70 1967.10 = 18.20 Property Acc 742.10 781.20 = 6.90	CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH, 01/7 9290500					
Far East Acc 250.70 26190 - 3.20	I ASTUTATICE FUNDS					
Managed Capital 658-70 693.40 - 2.60	Sapohire Mixed 375 60 395 40 - 1.40					
Ones to 1774 30 (444-45) -(1767)	Ruby 203.50 214.30 - 200 Emeraid (72.40 tst 90 - 0.50					
GUI Edoted Acc 617 80 650.40 + 5.30	Equator 468.40 493.50 ~ 0.90					
Amer Equity Acr. 1375.60 1405.90 - 1.30	Property 254.50 267.90 - 0.30					
Amer Man Acc 552-60 581.70 + 1.20 Amer Prop Acc 115.40 121.50 + 1.20	Indexed Secs 202300 213 et 1 + 1000					
Amer Prop Acc 115.40 121.50 • 1,20 Distribution Bonds 27.50 29.60	C29h					
AND COMPRESENTATION OF THE	Nth American 306 70 386.10 - 1.20					
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE	International 281.40 296.30 - 2.57					
American Road, High Wycombe, Bocks 01474 463483	Special Sits 509.60 \$36.50 • 1.60					
Reserve Ser 6 189.30 199.20 + 0.30	European 489 to 515.40 - 0.70					
Maked Serie 965.401 995 (G - n. (f)	l typanese 95.30 100.40 - 5.00					
Opportunity Ser 6 217:00 228:40 - 1:50 Distribution Ser 6 112:10 118:00 - 0:10 6:25	SE ASIA 313.20 329.70 - 2.20					
UK Equities Ser 6 1455.10 1531.60 -10.40	-do-Spec 197.70 208.20 + 0.10					
Higher Inc Serts 1533.40 1614.10 - 6.60	Flexible Retirement Plans Punds					
Far East Serie 445.70 469.10 - 300	Earthy 591.60 622.80 - 1.20					
Furnise Sect. 954.80 984.00 - 4.20	Property 240.50 253.20 0.30 .					
Intel Set 6 672.30 728.77 - 6.80 Property Set 6 642.20 675 90 • 2.30	Indet Linked 218Ji0 23GJi0 + 110					
Fired Parkers (20 30 467 50 4 0 30	Cash 2º1 80 307.00 • 0.30 Nth American 449 90 473 60 - 2.30					
Ind-Linkd Sec So 230.40 331.90 • 1.40 Greed Dep Sec 6 375.80 383.40 • 0.10	Cash 29180 307.00 • 0.30 · · · Nth American 449.90 477.60 - 2.30 · · · · Far East Acc 209.50 252.20 - 8.40 · ·					
•	[npernational ser 343.80 362.00 - 2.70					
BARCLAYS LIFE ZSZ Romford Road, London E7 91B 0181 534 5344	Special Sits 762.70 802.90 European Flex 703.10 740.20 - 3.40					
Family Arc 1242.40 1307.80 = 1.30	COLONIAL METERS CROVIN					
Gelt Edgest Acc 490.20 5 to JU + 2.40 .	COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Matsal Florat, Challers Markime. Kent MEA 477. 01634 990 000					
also in finish to the control of the	Kent MEA 4YY. 01634 \$90 000					
International Acc 460.00 484.30 + 180	(Units). Key 1 263 45					
Marraged Acc 691 40 727 40 + 110	-do-Cash: 225.00 237.89 • D.17					
-do-Initial 413.50 475.30 - 0.60	1 -do-Eurily 747.96 787.33 - 5.55					
	-do-Fat (n) 45.0 465.0 -6.75					
Property acc 345.60 363.80 • 0.30 do-lainal 206.80 217.70 • 0.20 America acc 469.50 494.30 • 8.70	-do-Property 407.84 429.31 - 1.26 (Pens): Code Cap 219.20 230.75 + 0.12					

a House. Chattann. & Japes Lobert. & Japes L

• 0.47 • 0.40 • 0.77 • 2.18 • 10.70 • 7.28 • 0.47 • 0.49 • 1.18 • 0.91 • 1.09 • 0.29 • 0.13 • 4.14

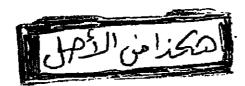


1.70   PR2 JPR (9772 840000   1.00	- 2.30		
1.70		l Harbour House Portkov, Preside, Lancs	1 Pag Earg 140.00 147.30 + 1.10 .
1.1.   1.1.	- 3400	PR2 2PR 91772 840000 Managed 221 00 232 NO + 0.93	LONDON LIFE
Carpornic   Carp	- 1.10 - 3.20 001	16K Ecountry 252.70 266.00 • 0.30	0179847777
Color	* 0.30 • ù.10	ingmaikngi 171.80 190.80 ± 2.20	Property   488.10 + 0.70
HILL SAMUEL LIFE	- 0,70 - 1,00	Deposit 156.50 164.70 • 0.20	Deposit : 331.40 0.30 7.30 7.30
HILL SAMUEL LIFE  2-00	- ing		Indexed Stock: 25-940; 3.80 3.60 3.60 3.60
Sept		HILL SAMUEL LIFE	Equity A
### 1400   Springh Farmal   AHAM   SFTA   O   AH   O   Struct   Color   Table   Table	I BSH .	9181 484 4375	Deposit A 1 195.50 + 0.20
Dollar Forms	2.40	Brfrish Fund 81/1/40 857.80 - 8.10	tades.Stack & t 2H0.20 • 2.93 .
Income Fund   101.77   107.10   7.70   Property F.   281.40   4.01   1	- 2.80	Dullar Fored Mault (MALO) - (18) .	Equity P1 1096.9016.20 .
1.50   Property Lights   98-776   97-720   -24-10   Minder First   7727   50   -7-20		Income Fund 1018.70 1078.00 - 7.80	Property P1 383.40 + 0.10 .
170	- 1.50	Property Units 949.70 997.20 -24.10	lMobed P፣ 727.50 7±0 .
High Trieft Frand	סלטי	Managed Set A 715 80 757.50 - 2.70   Managed Units 12/5 00 1361.20 - 4.80	international Pt 37400 4.40
Statisty Units	0.20 .	High Yield Fund 920 % 974 50 - 0.50	Winstade Park, Easter ENS IDS, 01392 283
Indicated Sect   22-10   28-10   -3.	6.7U	Mainry Units   437 70 460 40 + 0.50     Easter Fund   121 30 384.20 - 5.51	do-Act!
Satural Res   MADD   277-30 - 11.00   do-Act   PAL60   0.00   0.00	220	textested Secr	-do-ACC 256.10 + 0.10 .
Spring   S	1350 .	Natural Res 343.00 257.20 - 11.00	-do-Aczi 390.00 • 0.40 .
Man Carriery   20.00   377.00   0.00   0.00   1.1	5.70 1	Smaller Con +41.10 720.80 - 9.40	(-do-acc: 758∟100.e0 .
1.00	IAG	Man Currency 290 90 377,90 0.40	- do- Acc : 443.00 • 1.70 . Gld Deposit Cap ( 159.20
Deport	10.70	US Straller Cox 51730 54160 - 240 Formerly Tagget Life Assurance Co. Lid	-do-Acc 290.70 • 0.20 :
Phod laterest   See 10   Sep. 27   1.10   Cophilal Growth   24-80   27	· 4 10 1	Deposit 274.40 243 10 • 0.40 Financial Ser ( 7450 80.00 • 0.40	-du-Acci 742.30 . • 0.60 . Maneymaker Fd   564.50 . • 0.50 .
Val.   Lend		Fixed Interest 1997 to 120.20 - 3.30 Gold 65 41 hours - 2.70 .	Capital Growth: 2468.jg 0.50 .
## Property   125.0   135.0   Amery the board Act   140   Amery the board   14	Vall Lond	Minusi George 1 254 Aug 18 4 180 .	Victoria Road, Chelandord, Essex CMi D
TSB Birt Graft	220	Residential Prop   125.20   135.80	Armer Bond Acc 648 kg 680.60 ~ 3.40 .
TV8   Income		TSB Brit Gwth 1207 co 1334 43 - 130	Arz Srpir Cro BJ 374.60 341.20 - 7.80 . Australasia Bd 273.20 267.00 - 7.30 .
TSB Fadib:   Mo.TO   TS4.50   -0.20		TS8 Income 601.40 633.60 • 4.40 TS8 (pt) 52590 551.40 • 0.60	Comprodity Broad 315.40 331.20 -20.30
1.00	7.20	758 Pacific 336.70 754.50 - 0.20	Equity Borld Acc 1970 70 2010 40 -28.10 .   Entropean Bd Acc 550.90 578.60 - 5.40 .
First Life Centre, Visionia Street, St. Albane, Heigh Life Sign 445:50] #49-07 **-13-01	A10	Inist ter resultance	GTr Bornd Aux 547_Sq 577.10 • 1.40 .
Clobust Managed   794.00   795.00   4.00   1016bal Property 180.00   571.00   4.10   1016bal Property 180.00   571.00   4.20   1016bal Property 180.00   577.00   4.10   1016bal Property 180.00   528.00		trisit Life Centre. Victoria Street, St Albane.	Hisch Yief (Bood 4250) 446,407 ~ 13,40 .
Ma29902   Global Fired fat   60.90   671.67   2.50   Jajan Sm Cos Ac   161.0   161.91   42.00   67.0		Global Managed 74940 78900 • 9,00	international 84 849.50 892.00 ~ 7.20 .
Color   Colo		Global Fired [q: 640.90 674.60 4 2.50 .	Japan Sm Cos Ac   10 .10   109.30 - 8.70 .
Color	210	Global Cash 240141 253.30 • 0.30	Prop Bond Acc 554.30 582.10 • 2.50 . Rec Bond Acc 1038.50 1088.40 • 8.60 .
1.4.5   1.5.	1.00	· ·	S East Asta Bd Act 246.90 259.30 - 3.30 .
1.4.5   1.5.	2.40	LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE	MGM Home, Heest Road, Worthing
4-60	4.50	0 273 \$24000   8 Sec Enlet in!!   134 \$57   141 90	UK EUPUMY 307-26 123.40 ~ 1.30 .
1.00		-de-Acc 20190 212-00 + 010 . Brit Opps Ini 19510 22540 - 1.10	Special 503   127.70   134.50 - 0.80 .   Special 505 Act   200.00   210.60 - 1.20 .
Separate		Cash Initial 17500 152.20 - 0.30	North American 26130 277-20 + 100 . N American Acc 412-10 404-00 + 130 .
Flast   Initial   39-50   150   17	3.20	Equality Colician	Pacific Busin Acr 421.30 443.50 - 5.30
1.20	5.70	Fland Intiffact 395.40 4 to 30	Photo interest Acc 500th 525.40 + 1.10 .
Advance	120	Index-Links GOx 150 to 150 to 150	Property Acc 200.50 316.40 1.20 .
April	240	intrinipal VI © 349.70 - 3.90	
0.50	250 060	-do-Act 1076-30 1133-00 - 7.40	MERCHANT INVESTORS
Color	030		St Bartheloguen House, Lewiss Mead Bristol BN 25-H
130   130			01.7 9266 366
470	283 7101	LINCOLN The Oppos, 10H65 Orderd Read, Labelder	Giz Edged 75A.Sn 79a.30 • 9.30 . Interest Fund 453.90 • 75 90 • 1.10
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#### WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

#### Not with it at the Woolwich

From Mrs J. Wise Sir. Last month I responded to a full-page Woolwich adver-

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FERENCE AND THE

tisement offering "14 per cent growth tax-free" There was a "Call us free" telephone number to obtain an information pack. This I did.

time, it was ring, click, silence. The 100 operator said that there was a fault on the line. . On Monday I tried again. This time I spoke to a girl with a totally "drop dead" air. I explained the foregoing - she

Banks miss

over single

the point

currency

From Mr William Sholto

Sir, The single European currency remains the major

issue dividing political par-

ties. My recent experience suggests our banks are every

bit as remote from other

nations as they were 52 years

ago. I have no axe to grind,

but if we were moving to-

wards a unified currency, surely banks would be mak-

ing a start with easier facili-

Last week I wanted only to-

ties for changing currencies?

transfer a relatively small

sum to someone living abroad. I inquired at the local branches of Barclays.

NatWest, Midland and

Lloyds. None seemed keen

on the idea, although two of

them were serious enough to

phone their foreign ex-

change bureaux in the City.

did the charges made for

currency conversions. Two

of them told me that foreign

currency dealing had been

suspended that day (Novem-

ber 18) despite the lack of any

official confirmation. Two

suggested I open an account

with them before embarking

on any currency transfer,

but when I agreed they

demanded documents and

Exchange rates varied, as

trying several times. Each

"knew nothing about it" but said she'd send me the information pack. Guess what - it never came.

On October 17 I wrote to the Woolwich HQ at the address at the foot of the advertisement and asked for their comments. Guess what, again - no

response at all. Is this, I ask, a good way to foster an image? Personally I am not "with the Woolwich" but my hard-pressed teacher daughter has most of her savings with them.

Finally, I managed to get into my local Woolwich branch. I told this tale to a young couple who agreed it was rather awful, but of course not a local affair. He got the "offer" information together and gave me two first

class stamps!

I feel you ought to know the result of a (no doubt costly) advert in your paper. Yours faithfully, J. WISE,

38 Linkswood,

#### Taxman spares nothing for 49p From Sir Sydney Giffard

Sir, Returning from three weeks abroad, in early August, I found a demand from the Inland Revenue, due for payment on July 31, but which had not reached me before my departure in the middle of that month. I sent my cheque at once, with explanation of the delay.

This morning I received a bill for 49p, being the interest calculated to be due as the result of one week's delay in my response to the earlier demand. When I took my payment to the Post Office, they told me that, in addition to the costs already incurred for printing, postage and official time, the Giro Bank would levy a small charge ag-ainst the IR for this transaction.

It seems a pity that correct handling of what hardly amounts even to a trifle should be so expensive. But since the IR now debit me in advance for the excess which they believe I am likely to owe them at the end of the coming tax year, I find myself wondering what happens to rather larger amounts of interest putatively calculable to be due in the other direction. Yours faithfully, SIR SYDNEY GIFFARD, Winkelbury House, Berwick St John. Shaftesbury, Wiltshire.

#### Duchy dues

From Mrs Jennifer Müller Sir, Regarding the article by Susan Emmett (How the Duchy took over the Widow's mite, November 3) which evidently went into the Duchy of Cornwall Benevolent Fund, the same situation obtains in the Duchy of Lancaster.

Here money from intestate estates is paid into a Benevolent Fund which makes donations to a wide variety of charitable causes, primarily within the County Palatine. However, gifts may be made, on the Chancellor's authority. to those who might reasonably have expected to benefit from a person's death.

There is an official booklet. called *Duchy of Lancaster* which is issued by the Duchy Office to explain the situation. Yours faithfully. JENNIFER MILLER

2 Heathview Gardens, SW15.

pound, this would mean the minimum holding is currently worth £349 and the average is worth almost £1,000.

olonial the Austra-

lian life insurer that demutualised last

year, has announced details

of its share option scheme.

which will allow some mem-

bers to buy extra shares at a

discount. Here Weekend

Money looks at the scheme and whether it is worth

I have a policy with Colonial. Do I qualify

A Not unless you received free shares at the time of

demutualisation. About

260,000 people in the UK qualified for the windfall but

nearly 40 per cent of them sold

out before flotation. More

people have sold their shares

this year and there are current-

ly 160,000 UK shareholders.

This latter group will qualify

What was the average allocation of shares and

ceived a minimum of 225

shares and an average 630

shares. The ordinary shares

are now worth about AS\$3.80

(EL.55) after peaking at \$4

earlier this year. At an ex-

what are they worth now?

for the share option scheme.

buying extra stock.

for the discount shares?

Is Colonial a snip?

How does the option scheme work and is there a time limit on the options?

Each Colonial ordinary

A share issued at the time of flotation has an option attached. These options act in a similar way to warrants in the UK, except that warrants can be traded separately at any time, while the Colonial options will only start trading separately from December 4. The option gives the holder the opportunity to buy another Colonial share at a discount of 15 per cent to the average share price between December 30 and January 20 next year. The options can only be exercised between December 4

become worthless. A Typically, a UK share-holder would have re-Is there an auci manner buying the extra shares,

> A If you do nothing, the options lapse. If you decide to sell the options, Colonial says you will receive

and how much will it all cost?

and February 2, 1998. After that time they lapse and

around 4 cents per option, which means that when you take out the cost of selling you will make very little profit. The alternative is to exercise the option. You are entitled to pay AS\$0.40 (or 17p at current exchange rates) towards buying further shares in Colonial at a 15 per cent discount to the average share price. In sterling terms, this means that if you have 500 shares, you will have £85 worth of spending power, which at an average share price during the offer

Why were me agood issued and is it a good Why were the options idea to buy extra shares?

period of \$3.40 would give you

around 60 new shares.

A The options were issued by Colonial at the time of flotation to enable Colonial to raise extra money after demutualisation. The options are underwritten by the Australian office of the investment bank SBC Warburg Dillon Read. Analysts regard the shares as a good buy. This is because a fellow mutual insurer, Australia Mutual Provident (AMP), is in the process of demutualising and will be listed on the Australian and New Zealand stock markets next year. AMP will be one of the ten biggest companies on

the Australian stock exchange and as a result pension funds and other institutional shareholders will want to buy the stock. Those funds that track stock market indices will also want to increase their weightings but may not be able to get hold of as many AMP shares as they want and so will buy Colonial shares as a proxy. This happened in the Uk during the summer of building society flotations, when the banking sector received a huge boost as fund managers bought banking shares because they could not get their hands on newly converted building society stock.

What will it cost me to buy and sell shares?

A It costs nothing to buy extra shares through the option scheme. If you want to sell shares, the Share Centre in the UK is offering a service with a minimum charge of £27.50 plus Australian stamp duty and 0.15 per cent of the sale proceeds. If you want to sell options, the minimum cost is £6.75 for any amount plus stamp duty. From Monday, more information can be obtained from Colonial's helpline (0845-603 9078).

MARIANNE CURPHEY



passport with me, but for NatWest that was insufficient identification. They wanted my driving licence and water bill as well - odd for a depositor. Midland said they would take my money, but could give no indication how much the sum would amount to when finally converted to foreign currency. Lloyds simply refused to touch any conver-

sion to foreign currency. I always thought the funcproof of identity. In anticipa-tion I had taken my UK tion of banks was to deal in money, including the vari-

ous overseas currencies. How prepared are we to enter a currency union with Europe if simple exchange deals are too difficult for our banks? Judging by my experience, I would guess that the euro must still be a century away. If, however, we do wish to open a new chapter and join, we will have to catch up very rapidly. Yours faithfully, WILLIAM SHOLTO.

'Laurandria'. Tudor Road. Barnet, Hertfordshire.

> Letters or information for Weekend Money may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5082. Letters should include a

daytime telephone number. The Times regrets it cannot always give individual replies or advice.

#### THE WEEK IN MONEY

The collapse of Yamaichi, the fourth-biggest securities house in Japan, sent chills through the world's financial markets and alreadystart of the week. Share prices fell in London and the European markets.

☐ Private investors lost £1 billion in Peps in the last stock market crash, according to figures released this week. The Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds said the value of investments held within Peps fell from £35.86 billion in September to £34.86 billion in October. Nearly £140 for each of the 7.15 million Pep accounts currently open has been lost.

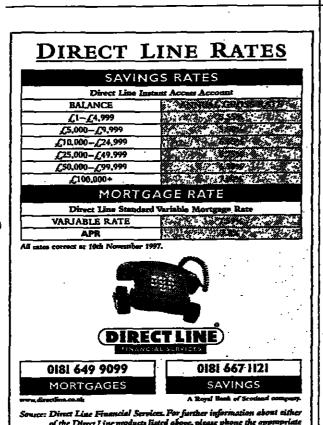
Prince William and Prince Harry will lose about £7 million of their mother's estate to the taxman because the Royal Family and Earl Spencer ruled out using a legal scheme which could have plunged them into contro-

versy. Much of the money could have been kept if the royals had been prepared to use the Barder application, which would reverse the vorce settlement and returned it to Prince Charles.

☐ The "green" Budget on Tuesday tempered an austere message on pay and spending with the promise of £400 million to help pensioners with winter fuel bills and £300 million for funding after-school clubs for children. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, also announced VAT on home insulation grants is being cut from 17.5 per cent to 5 per cent. But he delivered a strong message on wage increases, saying that "today's pay rise threatens to become tomorrow's mortgage rise". He again committed himself to a tax starting rate of 10p in pound but did not give a timescale. Details on the new individual savings account will be unveiled on Tuesday.

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NatWest standard Visa	£12	20.8%	£195.00	Address	Au
Midland standard MasterCard	£12	20.6%	£192.00	Postcode	
Goldfish	Nii	18 9%	£157.20	Tolonhoos (Marro Mint)	Master

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The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, is Tom Whitelaw, of Bearsden in Scotland

#### Marianne Curphey explains how the current stock market crisis in Japan has arisen

# Shadows in the land of rising sums

Turmoil in the Asian markets, sharp falls in the Nikkei 225 index and, this week, the collapse of one of Japan's biggest brokerage houses - is there more bad news to come from the Far East? Those investors who were seduced by predictions three years ago that Japan's recovery was just around the corner and by forecasts that the economic upturn was overdue will now be sitting on large losses. Weekend Money asks whether there is more pain to come, and how Japan will sort out its troubles this time.

What has caused the turmoil in the Japanese markets?

A The Japanese stock market escaped the 1987 crash suffered by both the UK and US and soared ahead in 1988 and 1989. In 1990 the yen rose strongly against the dollar, making Japanese exports more ex-pensive and reducing profits for manufacturing companies. At the same time, interest rates rose and the value of equities began to fall, and the Nikkei 225 stock market average lost almost half its value in a year.

A further fall in equities came in 1991 when the Gulf War denied Japanese companies the oil imports on which they depended heavily. Then in 1995 the country began to emerge from recession and pundits were selling hard the story of a

Unfortunately for those investors who bought in at that time, the Japanese Government decided that the economy was doing so well that ministers raised taxes. This had the effect of taking 2 per cent out of the

economy. Futher pressures in the form of a property boom and collapse, and international speculators moving in to bet on the value of the yen and other Far Eastern currencies, have taken their toll on the Nikkei, which from a high of almost 40,000 in 1990 has now fallen to close at 16,636 this week. Over the past month alone, the Nikkei has dropped 5 per cent.



Sea of red: shell-shocked Tokyo shareholders look on in dismay as screens reveal falling share prices

What effect has the collapse of Yamaichi, Japan's fourth largest brokerage house, had on the

Yamaichi collapsed on Monday under a Y3.2 trillion (£15 billion) mountain of debt, triggering falls in the FTSE 100 index in the UK and the Dow Jones on Wall Street.

Although there have been concerns for several years about serious problems in the banking sector, Yamaichi's closure came after revelations of the brokers' buge hidden debts, known as tobashi. Rumours about these practices have been rife for several years. The practice is designed to conceal losses fromregulators and companies' favoured

It involves shuffling around losses on a favoured clients' account to another account, by manipulating the records or setting up dummy companies to "buy" the loss.
Once the news of the debts became

public, foreign credit agencies began downgrading Yamaichi, banks re-called their loans and frightened

investors started to withdraw their

Has the Japanese Government taken any action?

On Wednesday Japanese min-A isters took the rare step of appealing for calm, amid concern that investors were losing confidence in the country's financial institutions. Although the country's finance minister and the Governor of the Bank of Japan asked people to "act sensibly", history has shown that panic can lem, according to Iain Allan, director of strategy at the Royal Bank of Scotland, is that the Japanese government system is a collective one, with no individual willing to take a lone gamble on sorting out the mess the economy is in. He believes the burden will fall on the United States Government, which will eventually force the Japanese to push through

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What sort of action will the What som or many Japanese have to take?

A Japanese ministers have pledged not to allow financial meltdown to take place and there is widespread belief that public money will have to be used in some form to resolve the banking system's bad loan problems. Politicians have until now been reluctant to use public money for the banking system because a huge outery greeted a decision by the Government last year to use tax money to help to wind up failed mortgage firms. There will be more support if the money is used to protect depositors rather than to rescue firms from mismanagement.

The options available include Bank of Japan loans, tax revenues, and money from the Government's postal savings-funded Fiscal Investment and Loan Programme.

How have the Nikkei 225 and the FTSE 100 indices performed in this turbulence?

At the beginning of October the Nikkei 225 index stood at 17,842.16. It hit a low point in November of 15,082.52 and now stands at 16,636. This compares with a high seven years ago of 38,915.87. The FTSE 100 index, meanwhile, reached a high of 5,330.8 in October this year but dropped as low as 4,711 a fortnight ago as a currency crisis which started in the Far Eastern markets and was driven by speculators spread to both the United

#### It's only for the brave with a long-term view

Fund managers and investment advisers admit to feeling of admit to feeling "bat-tered and bruised" by the revelations of corruption and debt at the very heart of Japan's economy. Many had been taking a very positive view of Japan at the beginning of the sum-mer, since the UK and US stock markets had reached record highs and Japan was still looking cheap.

They are now ruing the advice they gave to clients to test the water by putting a proportion of their portfolio into what appeared to be

an undervalued market.
Others see the Nikker's tumble and the drop in the value of Japanese stocks as a buying opportunity. However, investing in Ja-pan now is only for the brave and those who can afford a long-term view.

Most analysts agree that
there will be further fail-

ures of banks or stockbroking firms and more turmoil before the economy and the fortunes of the stock market start to improve.

Those who are bullish about the market urge in-vestors to pick unit or investment trusts which concentrate on the "blue chips" — good quality com-panies like Sony — which will receive international support.

Jason Hollands, a director of BESt Investment, says those people who have already bought into Japan should sit tight. "There really is no alternative," he said. "Now that the banking sector's problems have been brought out into the open there is hope that they

will be sorted out. At last, slowly, Japan will be brought into the real world In the past, companies with financial problems have closed overseas branches rather than sack workers in Japan. Now Japan is com-ing to terms with the fact that unemployment is part of a modern economy. Japan may be about to discover Thatcherism."

lain Allan, the Royal Bank of Scotland's director of strategy adds that al-though manufacturing companies have learnt to be lean and mean, banks are still full of people with no real jobs who are kept on because it would be a great

Mr Hollands forecasts that the coming months will see fund managers buying up quality com-panies and recommends the Newton Japan unit trust, which invests in only 40 companies. "This is a market for good stockpick-

ers," he said Over the past three years. Newton Japan's unit trust has lost 13 per cent of its value, compared with Schroder Tokyo, which has lost almost 20 per cent over the same period, and Fidelity Japan, at 24 per cent. Although these are hardly cheering figures, he believes Newton's narrow focus will protect it from exposure to some of the worst of Japan's economic problems. For the more wary investors, a policy of "wait and see" is the best

MARIANNE CURPHEY

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# All eyes on CGT future

#### Gavin Lumsden on hopes and fears over changes to capital taxation

most frightening of familiar spectres — it's Gordon Brown, he's back and this time he wants another multibillion slug out of your pencreate a long-term investment

The cause of the concern is capital gains tax (CGT), just one of many subjects upon which the Iron Chancellor had precious little to say. Having aunched a review of CGT in his July Budget, Mr Brown stopped taking consultation on it last month. This week he announced that he would deliver a verdict in the proper

sion fund.

udging by their reaction

to the "green" Budget on J Tuesday, accountants felt

at a loss to know what to say. Deprived of any stimulus in the Chancellor's speech, they have started conjuring the

Budget next spring. Meanwhile investors and their financial advisers are on tenterhooks. All that is known about CGT reform so far is that it fits in the centre of the Government's drive to assets held for more than ten culture in Britain.

At the moment CGT plays a relatively minor role on the fiscal stage, taxing people on investment gains over £6,500 year at the individual's highest marginal rate for income tax. Last year it affected 100,000 people, who paid £1.2 billion into the government coffers.

However, CGT is complex and costly to administer and is widely expected to be replaced by a two-tier system that would penalise shortterm investment gains while exempting profits made from

Elspeth May, tax partner in KPMG, believes that the rate of CGT should be cut by 4 per cent for every year an asset is held. This would prevent the tax distorting investment de-

one of this is particularly controversial. What has got financial experts wornied is the prospect of the tax being levied on pension funds. a move that would raise between £1 billion and £1.5 billion for the Inland Revenue each year. This would be on top of the £3.6 billion smashand-grab raid that the Chancellor pulled off in July when he prevented pension funds from reclaiming the 20 per cent tax on dividends from

Maurice Fitzpatrick. Chantrey Vellacott, said: "For every £2 of UK equity held by individuals, £4 is held by pension funds. From an intellectual point of view, if the Chancellor is serious about erasing short-termism, he would have to include pension funds." Mr Fitzpatrick says that the Government has already shown itself to be

disposed to imposing a dis-

guised tax via pension funds and that it would find the money useful in achieving its aim of setting a 10p basic rate

John Whiting, of Price Waterhouse, agrees. He said: "CGT has traditionally always been a gap plugger in the Government's anti-tax avoidance strategy and not a revenue raiser. However, I feel the reform is processing far more in the way of the

Ending the CGT exemption that occupational and personal pension funds currently enjoy would be a politically sensitive move for the Gov-

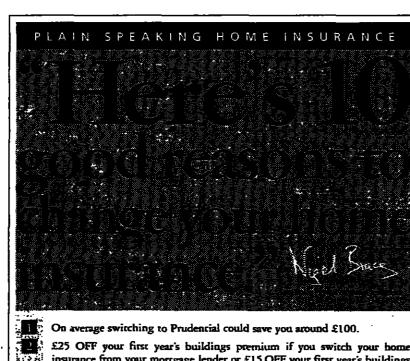
ernment, which is already committed to pensions reform as part of its plan to encourage people to save more for their retirement.

The National Association of Pension Funds, whose members manage the £300 billion of assets that would be affected, rightly claims that pen-sion funds are already longterm investors. Stamp duty on purchases is sufficient discouragement from engaging in speculative trading. However, the association says that funds need maximum investment flexibility to provide income for pensioners.

n other areas, the Chancellor's lack of detail may he good news for inves tors. Mr Brown did not, as expected, abolish reinvestment relief, which allows people to escape CGT on investment gains by reinvesting their profits in unquoted companies. Investors and providers of enterprise investment schemes and venture capital trusts, which thrive on this relief, live to see another day,

If the Government does move to a two-tier system for CGT, it may be ald the end of the indexation calculation. much to the relief of investors plagued by its complexity since its introduction in 1982. Indexation allows investors to use rises in the retail price index to reduce their taxable gains. For example, an investment bought in 1992 at £1,000 and sold today at £5,000 would produce a gain of £4,000. If inflation has been 20 per cent, investors can subtract 20 per cent of their original investment (£200) cutting their taxable gain to £3,800. Accountants say that this sum will be a nightmare for people completing self-assessment forms. Besides, they add, if the Government succeeds in keeping initiation low, it will become increasingly irrelevant

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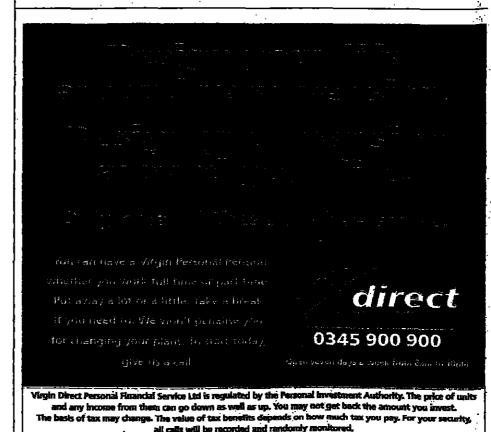
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The Chancellor's decision not to change the inheritance tax rules in the Budget means that an over-haul is likely to be top of his list in April, and you have four months in which to make the most of the current generous allowances.

Gordon Brown is believed to regard the present system as unsatisfactory and unfair since it is, effectively, a voluntary tax paid only by those who have failed to plan properly and tends to hit the middle classes harder than the seriously rich. For example, a man living in the South of England with £100,000 of investments and a house worth £200,000 would be liable for tax at 40 per cent on £85,000, that is £34,000.

The Treasury loses millions of pounds of potential revenue from inheritance tax every year because skilled accountants can maximise the exemptions under the current system. Reforming inheritance tax would be a simple way for the Chancellor to raise more revenue without penalising the low paid.

At present, inheritance tax is charged at 40 per cent on all assets worth more than £215,000 in an estate. About 1.5 million people

l le

453:::

Wake-up call to protect your heirs living in the UK will share inheritance windfalls of £26 bil-

lion this year, a similar sum to the recent windfalls from the Halifax, Norwich Union, Woolwich and Northern Rock flotations put

So with four months to go before any potential changes are made, what can those with estates and those who expect windfalls do to reduce their tax liability?

Maurice Fitzpatrick, a senior tax partner with Chantrey Vellacott, the accountant, says careful financial planning by the wealthy could reduce substantially, or even eliminate, inheritance tax liability by giving away assets during one's lifetime.

#### **CURRENT RULES**

Making transfers from your

At present, if an individual's estate is worth, £215,000 or less when he or she dies, there is no tax to pay. Similarly, gifts of £3,000 per donor a year are free of tax. Anything over that potentially becomes liable to tax. If you do not take advantage of this exemption each year, it is lost. However, if you

Marianne Curphey says Brown may reform inheritance tax

make a gift of more than £3,000 it will not attract tax as long as the donor lives for more than seven

years after so doing.
This is known as the potentially exempt transfer (Pet). The growth in the value of the Pet is excluded from any assessment of the value of the estate from the first day of the transfer.

When inheritance tax is being assessed, any amount over £215,000 is taxed at 40 per cent. On an estate of £300,000 there would be £34,000 tax to pay, while on an estate of £2 million, more than £700,000 would be due.

If you leave money to charity. the donation is exempt from inheritance tax.

Capital gains tax liability:
Even though making a transfer is usually a wise move, it may cost money in the form of capital gains tax, says David Aaron, who runs a financial advisory service in Milton Keynes. When you make a gift the Inland Revenue regards it as a disposal for capital gains tax purposes. The CGT allowance for each individual this year is £6,500 and you will pay tax at your highest rate on the balance if your assets have appreciated by more than this figure since you began investing in them.

Mr Aaron says: "It is possible to get around CGT by using 'holdover' relief via a discretionary trust." An accountant or tax adviser and some financial advisers can do this for you.

LIKELY CHANGES

■ Abolishing the seven-year rule/ abolishing Pets:

The Government could abolish the seven-year rule in April's Budget and impose inheritance tax on any gift transferred during your lifetime. Some tax experts suggest that instead of getting rid of the seven-year rule he could extend the timescale so that any gifts given 20 years before your death would be exempt from inheritance tax. However, it would be very difficult for people to make the most of the latter option since it would be hard to estimate how much money they would need to keep to fund their own lifestyle over two decades. Alternatively, the tax might be calculated on the cumulative total

of lifetime gifts plus the value of Mr Fitzpatrick thinks that the Chancellor might impose a lower limit from the current 40 per cent on the first £100,000 over and above £215,000 nil band. Mr

Brown could target the seriously wealthy by raising inheritance tax to 60 per cent of all estates worth more than El million. John Battersby, personal financial services partner of KPMG, the accountants, believes abolishing lifetime gifts would cause an ad ministrative burden. He said: "It

does not seem realistic to expect

taxpayers to keep records of all gifts

throughout their lives as abolition of the rule could require." ■ Abolition of business property relief and agricultural relief: It is currently possible to siphon off some assets that would normally be subject to inheritance tax by

using schemes that trigger tax relief, Mr Aaron says. These include excluded property

trusts, where someone who is not domiciled in the UK can make investments offshore that will be exempt from inheritance tax for ever, even if you become a UK

Business and agricultural property relief were designed to prevent the break-up of bona fide family businesses, but the Government is concerned that these reliefs may be abused. Both reliefs are likely to be scrapped in any reform of inheritance tax.

■ Changing a will after death: It is possible to avoid inheritance tax by changing a will after the person has died to make it more tax-efficient. Although this is used in cases where people had not updated a will for many years and family circumstances had changed, the Government believes some people are abusing the spirit of the law to avoid tax.

#### **ACTION BY APRIL**

Draw up a will. 2. Make an estimate of your 3. Use existing exemptions, includ-

ing the nil rate band.

4. Make use of potentially exempt

transfers (Pets).
5. Invest in nil or lower taxed assets, which include agricultural land, private trading companies and woodland.

6. Create a lifetime discretionary trust to ensure that when one half of a married couple dies, the inheritance passed to the survivor is not taxed when the survivor

Leave Lloyd's assets to your

#### OTHER POINTS

Mr Aaron, and Mike Warburton, of Grant Thornton, both highlight the importance of incorporating death-in-service benefits from employers into your inheritance tax

For example, suppose your spouse receives a large sum as part of the benefits from your occupational pension scheme when you die. When your spouse dies, they will then be caught for inheritance tax.

Mr Aaron makes the suggestion that people should ensure that death benefits are paid into a suitable trust that will enable them to bypass the estate of the surviving spouse, but without denying the spouse income or capital from

Inheritance problems: the late Princess, with Prince Harry and Prince William

Having a will of your own The only way to ensure assets stay in the family is to

keep your legal wishes up-to-date, says **Susan Emmett** 

translated into an annual premium of about £40,000 for the

the two Princes, would have avoided much of the hefty inheritance tax they now face. There are several ways of avoiding inheritance tax, most of which involve giving away your assets during your life in order to reduce the value of your estate. But this is not always ideal, especially if you

derstand why Diana.

not update her will after her £17 million divorce settlement.

Had she done so, she could

have ensured that her heirs,

are still young. Clive Scott-Hopkins, director at Towry Law Financial Services, said: "If you cannot 'beat' it through divestment, then 'meet' it instead through a trust life policy."

According to Mr Scott-Hopkins the Princess should have taken out a life policy in trust for William and Harry to fund her large potential IHT liability, which on £17 million is about £6.7 million. The trust, created by means of her updated will, would have cancelled out capital gains tax on her death also. A low-cost whole life policy costs around £6,000 per £1 million for a fit 36-yearold female, which would have

As inheritance tax is payable up to seven years after such an arrangement, she could have taken out insurance policies to protect against tax liability had she died within that period.

Yet, according to Richard Bark-Jones, a partner at Morecroft Urquhart in Liverpool, it is fairly unusual for such a young person to consider these measures. "Normally an average 36-year-old would not be thinking of setting up these sorts of trusts," he said. "But then again an average 36year-old does not have a £17

million divorce settlement." However surprising it may seem that the Princess did not update her will and make suitable arrangements for reducing IHT liability, she is not alone. Only one in three people ever makes a will and many fail to review them after a life-changing event such as

marriage or divorce. Mar-

riage automatically invali-dates a will made before the

wedding. Although the full details of the Princess's will have not been disclosed, it is known that she wished the majority of her estate to go to her two sons. It is unlikely that this would have changed in a new will but lawyers, such as Mr Scott-Hopkins, are keen to emphasise the importance of keeping your will up-to-date.

lthough marriage invalidates a will, divorce ▲ does not but it negates any benefits to the former spouse. Therefore, it is important to rethink who your new beneficiaries will be and how to minimise liability.

If your estate is straightforward, organising your own will can be relatively easy. High street stationers do sell packs. But solicitors advise care because a will needs to meet certain legal requirements for it to be valid. Unless it is witnessed by two people

who are not beneficiaries, for instance, it is worthless.

If your estate is more complex and your assets worth more than £215,000, the threshold for inheritance tax, then a trip to the solicitors is certainly recommended as he or she can give you guidance on how to mitigate inheritance tax liability and help to set up

You do not need to be a Spencer to have an estate worth more than £215,000. By the time you count the house. the furniture you put in it and the car, the threshold will quickly disappear. Inheritance tax may take a

large chunk of your estate but dying intestate could mean your heirs get even less. If you do not make a will, the Government will do it for you. The law only recognises relatives with a direct blood link so your hard-earned wealth might end up in the taxman's pocket as there are strict rules dictating where your money goes if you die intestate.

An ordinary will costs around £50 and a couple making similar wills would be charged £75. Personal recommendation is the best way to choose a solicitor. If friends and colleagues cannot help, lists of solicitors can be found in bank libraries, Citizens Advice Bureaux and the solicitors' Family Law Association. Will-writing services, insurance companies, building societies and banks can also help with preparing wills.

After making an appoint-ment, it helps to list all your assets. Include insurance policies and any property that you own, as well as valuable possessions. You will also have to list Premium Bonds, although they are not transfer-

Once your will is sorted out you will need to appoint an executor who will ensure your wishes are carried out after your death. Your bank or your solicitors will act as executors but as both will charge you for the privilege, it is best to appoint a close friend of the family, a relative or grown-up children. You can have more than one executor and they can be a beneficiary of your

Thought for the day

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The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, is Tom Whitelaw, of Bearsden in Scotland



#### **TOKYO BLUES 52**

Graham Searjeant looks for light in the gloom

# WEEKEND M()NFY

THE TIMES SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29 1997

**FAMILY ASSETS 63** 

هكذا من رلامل

The importance of keeping your will up to date



Caroline Merrell on the changes facing married couples and single parents

#### Working mum welcomes help



C hirley Hutchinson, a 28-year-old single mother from North London, is one at whom the money for childcare is targeted. As a freelance record production assistant, Ms Hutchinson's hours are erratic, and she will often work beyond normal school hours. Her son Sebastian will have to be looked

after for a couple of hours after school and she said she welcomed any change that would make childcare simpler and cheaper. She said: "The out-of-school club costs around £5 a session. Over a month the costs could be as high as £100, anything that makes this cheaper would be welcomed.

# Brown turns attention to family matters

much the focus of the Chancellor's Budget statement this week. Gordon Brown proposed a radical overhaul of the family credit system that could bring to an end the independent taxation for husbands and wives introduced only six years ago. The move could mean a rebellion among the millions of dual-earnings middle class couples who voted

Labour into power.

Mr Brown also unveiled a E300 million package for childcare, aimed at increasing the number of places in afterschool clubs. The latter move was seen by some as a step towards granting tax relief on the costs of childcare.

The overhaul of the present system of family credit will mean that workers will receive the benefit in their pay packet in the form of reduced tax - it will be termed a workingfamily tax credit (WFTC).

Family credit is currently paid to families with income of less than £77 a week. The basic benefit is worth £47.65 per family. Benefits of between £12 a week and £34 a week are also paid out for each dependent child. Around £2 billion a year is spent on family credit and it is worth an average of £57 a week for each family that

In America, where there is no independent taxation, the WFTC is based on the joint income of husband and wife. Reintegration of family income for tax purposes could partners each earning £20,000 a year would become liable to higher-rate tax, adding £4,000 to their annual tax bill.

However, Mr Brown emphasised that no final decision had been made. "If you look at America, for example, their earned income tax credit is now available to 18 million people. whereas in Britain family credit is available to only 700,000 people. So we want to look at how we can help more low-paid workers to gain benefits from their work,"

The Institute of Fiscal Studies, the independent body, said that WFTC would be almost impossible to administer unless the entire family income was taken in to account. If it was not, it could lead to a situation where, for example, a low-paid secretary benefited from the tax credit despite the fact that her husband earned a substantial sum. The IFS also said the problems could arise as the tax credit would inevitably end up in the hands of the working partner - usually the male. It would not necessarily

reach its target, the family. The Government also gave an unexpected boost to the childcare lobby. Mr Brown unveiled plans to spend a total of £300 million over five years on delivering help to working parents. The money will be spent on setting up a total of 30,000 out-of-school clubs, which will provide one million

new childcare places. The cash

will also be used to train

child carers. The changes will be particularly helpful to sin-gle parents. Gingerbread, the charity that campaigns on behalf of single-parent fam-ilies, said there are around 1.7 million single-parent families bringing up 2.9 children, representing nearly a quarter of all households with dependent

Many single parents are dependent on state benefits, many find it difficult to work because the costs of childcare make it economically unviable. At the moment, there are about 3,400 out-of-school clubs providing childcare for around 150,000 children.

spokeswoman said the£300 million give-Laway by the Chancellor was extremely welcome. She said it pointed to a Government that was more sympathetic to helping working parents. She said: "We would welcome an opportunity to consult on who the carers should be." She also pointed out that some of the £300 million should be used to make sure that the childcare places were available to the

poorest people. of State for Social Security, said: "It is an investment which could transform all parents' lives, particularly lone parents. Next year, the first year of the programme, we will make £40 million

### INSIDE



Anne Ashworth on the rate rise at **National Savings** 

Making money from film memorabilia



#### INTEREST RATES



A chemist's remedy for poor fund performance

A mutually convenient way of borrowing



in Speight

ETAR STORIES

Z#XX

**BUSINESS NEWS PAGES 27-31** 

WEEKEND MONEY is edited by Anne Ashworth

#### Poor miss out on 10% tax rate

The Chancellor again re-iterated the Government's commitment to a 10 per cent starting rate of tax in the green Budget (Caroline Merrell writes).

Gordon Brown said: "To maximise rewards from work. a 10p starting rate of tax and a reform of benefit tapers will be introduced when it is prudent to do so." In principle, accountants welcomed the pledge on the 10 per cent tax rate, but said the richest would benefit most from the low tax band. The Government gave no indication about how it in-

tends to fund a low starting rate of tax, or how it would interact with the current tax structure. At the moment,

**Barclays** 

claims

lm new

account

every individual can earn £4,045 before they pay any tax, the next £4,100 attracts 20 per cent tax, while the next E21,999 attracts 23 per cent tax.

Those who earn more than £30,145 have to pay tax at the highest rate of 40 per cent, on anything above that amount. John Whiting, tax partner at Price Waterhouse, said: "In principle it is a good idea. But it will not solve everything." He pointed out that the very low paid were not interested in tax rates. He claimed they were far more concerned about losing benefits when they started work.

Mr Whiting believes the Government could fund the tax cut by not allowing the two million or so 40 per cent tax payers to benefit from the

lower rate of tax. John Battersby, of KPMG, also welcomed the proposed changes, but said the pledge by the Government was of little use, as there was no detail to back it up. According to figures from

KPMG, if the 20 per cent tax band was simply exchanged for a 10 per cent tax band, using this year's figures, the most that could be saved would be £410. Anyone earning over £8.045 would benefit from this maximum saving. Anyone earning under this amount would save less. For example, someone earning E7,500 would only save £345.

#### Brown's day of reckoning for Isa

As the nation embarks on the Christmas spending spree, the Chancellor wants us to pause a while to think about saving. Next Tuesday sees the publication of a consultation document on the individual savings account (Isa), the replacement for the Pep and the Tessa.

Those who can think about thrift instead of turkeys may not be overwhelmed by Gordon Brown's generosity. There is speculation that the tax relief may be restricted to 10 per cent.

The Halifax, the largest provider of Tessas and of Pep mortgages, is questioning the timing of the Isa launch, scheduled for April 1999. The Halifax points out that many institutions will be preceduwith reorganisation of systems

for the millennium. The Isa proposals must reconcile a number of conflicting interests. The account will be primarily designed to appeal to those on low incomes but must not alienate better off investors who may also wish to take advantage of the new account. John Whiting, tax part-ner at Price Waterhouse,

the accountants, says: The Chancellor must make sure that there is some tax incentive for the average investor, the type of person already saving in Peps.

"if the incentives are not sufficiently appealing, then those with money in Peps will not be interested in transferring into Isas. If they decide to cash in their Pep hold-ings, there could be serious consequences for the stock market. There would also be implications for the consumer spending figures if they decided to embark on a spending spree."

ANNE ASHWORTH

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ence of telephone banking.

holders A chanted people have opened accounts at Barclays this year after their banks failed to give good service (Susan Emmett writes). Disgruntled customers no longer put up with bad banking and are switching like never before. But some stay with the traditional. Barclays says it has had an

'outstanding" year. But increased competition on the high street from newcomers such as Virgin One, Virgin Direct's new account combining a flexi-ble mortgage and current holders are spoilt for choice. First Direct, Midland's telephone banking arm, welcorned 130,000 new account holders and some 150,000 joined the Halifax, the coun-

try's largest building society. Jodi Cornolsky, Z3. is one of the disaffected customers who left her old bank because it failed to offer the service she needed. Jodi joined First Direct for the conveni-

Gloves are off, page 54





Althorp braces itself for Diana's pilgrims





Fragile, freeform and fun: the new knitwear



Tom Jones and the babies left out in the cold

VEEKEND





James Bond's most glamorous getaways

THE

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29 1997

# Can Ffion save the Tories?

Nicholas Wood and Katherine Bergen look at the woman the Conservatives hope

will inject glamour into their blighted party

Ffion is

still one of

the leading

lights

in the

so-called

SWS society

— Social,

Welsh and

Sexy

n less than a month Ffion Jenkins, unusual appearance of a souvenir booklet once nicknamed the "Princess of Wales" by jealous classmates at her Welsh comprehensive, will marry William. Hague amid the gothic splendour of the House of Commons

Conservative spin-doctors, salivating at the prospect of a touch of glamour in their lacklustre team, are already suggesting that the political wedding of the decade will prove the platform for a Tory

Flion, aged 29, is blonde, pretty, clever, repeat the mistake of her former boss John discreet and fiercely ambi-

tious. Known as "Jolly Jenkins" to her friends, she has a mega-watt smile and, according to her dress designer, the figure of Marilyn Monroe.

To Conservatives who have never quite got over the demise of their last high-octane blonde, this is an enticing prospect. Margaret Thatcher was once famously described by François Mitterrand as having the eyes of Caligula but the mouth of Miss Monroe. Battle-scarred Tories, still shellshocked by the scale of their election defeat, are hoping that Flion will bring some of that long-lost star quality to their rather dreary little party.

As The Times disclosed earlier this would expect in a possible future prime week, Mr Hague has yet to make much of an impression on the British public. Groups of voters interviewed in depth for the Tory high command have likened him to a dormouse or a Yorkshire terrier - a rather brutal way of saying that he has made little impact.

Mr Hague's image-makers hope that, with the help of Ffion, the wedding ceremony on December 19 in the crypt chapel, also known as St Mary's Undercroft, in the Palace of Westminster, will help to put their man on the political map.

As belits a former civil servant. Plion is playing her cards close to her chest, so far giving no interviews about her fastapproaching big day. Wedding invitations have gone out to about 200 close friends and family, and the wedding breakfast a loose term as the meal itself takes place after the 2pm ceremony - will also be staged inside the palace; at Speaker's House. The invitations stipulate morning iress but no confetti. They take the

tied by a cream bow with her parents Emyr and Myra Jenkins calling upon guests in English on the right of the centre pages and Welsh on the left.

The marriage ceremony of Flion Jenkins to William Jefferson Hague will be bilingual. This is hardly surprising, for Ffion is best known as the woman who taught William the rudiments of the Welsh language. A leading light in the SWS society - Social, Welsh and Sexy she was determined that he should not

Redwood, whose career nosedived when, as Welsh Secretary, he was exposed as not knowing the words of the

Welsh national anthem. When William took over the top job in Cardiff, Ffion spent two hours singing to him until he was word perfect. We are expected to believe that this tryst — at the White Horse pub in Betws-y-Coed on a hot summer's day in 1995 - was purely professional.

Whether it was or not, William, in keeping with his stolid Yorkshire background, took a while to make up his mind. A year passed before he asked her out, but after that he showed a decisiveness one

minister. Within four months, and three months before the election, he had proposed marriage. He is now taking lessons in Welsh from a professional tutor.

Flion was a brunette at Ysgol Gyfun Glantaf, a Welsh-speaking high school in Llandaff, Cardiff. But although her hairstyle has moved with the times, and a dash of peroxide, she has stayed true to her roots in the upper echelons of the Crachach, a network of well-connected Welsh-speaking families who run the Principality's quangos and institutions. To those who regard them as "petty gentry, conceited upstarts and snobs", they are

better known as the Taffia. One friend describes her as "Welsh Nationalist with a small n", which might make for some excitable pillow talk about the merits of William's distaste for devolution. But the truth appears to be that Ffion's enthusiasm for things Welsh

9-12 GARDENING 13-16 PETS .....

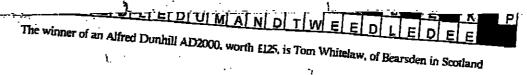


Ffion, aged 29, is blonde, pretty, clever, discreet and fiercely ambitious. Known as "Jolly Jenkins", she has the figure of Marilyn Monroe

"Look boss, if we fail to score again today, we "

play naked next week. Right lads!"

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....17 COUNTRY LIFE. 18-19 FAITH .....

# ه كذا من رلامل

# Dons who dice with Mr Chips

Cambridge can't resist Bill

Gates, or his

money, says

**Philip Delves Broughton** 

unseasonably their bicycles in the frost outside Lady Mitchell Hall, one of Cambridge's largest lecture rooms. earlier this month. They had come to hear Professor Quentin Skinner, who was giving his first lecture as the university's Regius Professor of Mod-

Skinner's lectures have always been crowd-pullers. from the moment he was elected into a college fellow-ship at 21, straight after graduation. This time, however, as the spoke about the 17th-century argument between Hobbes and Harrington on the subject of liberty, there was something different in the air. The packed hall and the style of Skinner's talk, delivered in measured sentences without a single visual aid, offered the most stylish possible rebuff to Cambridge science.

"It was extraordinary." says Professor Gillian Beer, president of Clare Hall and the chairman of this year's Booker Prize panel. There were people hanging from the rafters. It was a classic, bigargument, arts and humanities lecture which showed that the scientists do not have the monopoly on good teaching."

Skinner's lecture offered a rare chance for those in the arts and humanities to regroup. As so often in Cam-bridge's 700-year history, in the past year, the arts have been feeling science's boot on their neck. This time the pressure is greater than ever. Cambridge is fast becoming the nursery for the global computer revolution, and both town and gown are struggling

Last month, Bill Gates, the chairman of Microsoft and the world's richest businessman. visited the university after donating £10 million for a new computer laboratory and announcing the investment of £50 million over ten years in a research and development centre in Cambridge which would draw on

university expertise. It was like a papal blessing for those who, since the early Seventies, had turned Cambridge and its surrounding area into Silicon Fen. an East



Bill Gates, the chairman of Microsoft and the world's richest businessman, visited Cambridge last month after donating £10 million for a new university computer laboratory

Anglian version of California's Silicon Valley, the birthplace of the modern computer industry. There are around 600 high-tech firms in and around the city, employing 19,000 people, many at the leading edge of biotechnology and computer science. Gates had picked them to join him in the van of what he calls the new

Gates's visit, however, made many in the university uncomfortable. The meeting represented for some the capitulation of Cambridge science to commerce. And the boom in high-tech industries around Cambridge, which owes so much to the international prestige of the university, is which remains at heart a small, medieval East Anglian market town.

But traffic congestion, shortage of housing and lack of an infrastructure to cope with a rapidly increasing population is having a terrible effect on the city. Excessive tourism and lazy planning are turning Silicon Fen into an increasingly unhealthy and unattrac-

Peter Dawe, a local businessman who has launched the Cambridge is Full campaign, says: "Cambridge has grown incrementally with little overall planning strategy. It is now being ruined faster than ever.

University recruitment, for

problem too. Professor Skinner, who is also vice-master of Christs' College, says: "Academics, particularly those with families, are

conditions here." Dons who could once afford a pleasant house in the centre Camforced out into ugly commuter village like Sawton, Mil ton and Bourne, as

put off by the living

the prize properties in town are the high-tech industry. A way of life in which everyone in the university could walk or bicy-

room to college is nearing an end. The vision of the winsome undergraduate freewheeling down King's Parade is being replaced by one struggling on to the

Park and Ride. The state Cambridge's reputation in the won't pick sciences was based on the twin pillars up the 17th and 18th centubills any ries and Rutherford in the 20th, more and perhaps more

significantly on the fact that until 1848. snapped up by the swells from in order to obtain a degree from the university, every undergraduate had to pass the mathematics tripos. In 1848, cle from home to lecture to the Natural Science tripos was

introduced, paving the way for the study of applied physics and later engineering and inevitably computers.

The university's scientists showed for a long time the classic British ability to invent brilliantly but then to have absolutely no idea how to exploit their work. Then in 1910. W.G. Pye, a technician at up the Cambridge Instrument Company, which is now a part of Philips. It was the most important event in the evolution of Cambridge's sciencebased industry. Cambridge was on its way to making hard

cash out of its most precious yet vaporous of commodities ideas. In the 1960s Trinity College built its science park

on the outskirts of the city, the first such site in England Strathclyde in Scotland already had one. Trinity earned huge revenues from the sci-

ence park as companies like Acorn Computers took off. In the past two years, the high-tech revolution has gathered pace. American banks which specialise in high-tech have increased their presence in London to capitalise on Cambridge. Microsoft joins Sony Olivetti and Oracle, all with research centres in Cambridge or substantial invest-

ment in local firms. Hermann Hauser, who founded Acorn Computers and will run the £10 million Microsoft venture capital

in Cambridge we've had the problem that small software companies didn't connect with the market in the rest of the world. Microsoft's investment means we will be able to attract more talent into Cambridge to make it the mini Silicon Valley that it deserves

Cambridge, however, is drastically different from Silicon Valley in California or Redmond in Seattle, the home of Microsoft. These areas do not have to contend with Cambridge's traditions and geographical constraints, such as its surrounding green belt which makes development impossible or prohibitively

obin Saxby, the chief executive of Advanced RISC Ma-⊾chines, a Cambridge company which employs 162 people in developing intellectual property for computer firms, says: "We are here because what we are doing started with the university. But it is not an easy place to expand. Nobody wants to be the first on a green field site. Who wants to be brave enough to start a new building in the middle of a fen?

Unlike Cambridge, Silicon Valley and Redmond evolved simply to serve the computer industry. Microsoft's headquarters in Redmond have the feel of a university campus. Staff are encouraged to dress casually, the buildings are set in landscaped gardens with lakes, the atmosphere is youthful and creative but unlike a university Microsoft is a business and its distinctive culture is also a corporate identity.

Those in Cambridge who oppose the way the university has been cosying up to the computer companies are not plain Luddites. They find it disturbing to have aggressive, secretive business isations infiltrating what should be an open, liberal educational establishment. They also worry that the business ethos will lead to a more utilitarian approach to education where everything has to be justified in terms of

The mutual incomprehension between arts and science Professor Skinner. "Big business and universities will never share the same values. but in the past 15 years we have had to stop being so fastidious about taking their money because of the extent to which the state won't pay the bills. We can't afford to lose the chance of knowledge

cost-effectiveness.

# Diana disciples will descend on her shrine

Business is already booming around Althorp as locals prepare for many more visitors, Rachel Kelly reports

wrangle in the South African sunshine and the

British tabloids publish increasingly lurid details of the Spencers' divorce, in muddy conhampionshire the locals are preparing for a mini The death of Diana, Princess of Wales, has turned the spotlight on a pocket of this quiet county. Villages such as Great Brington and Nobottle,

Little Brington and Chapel Brampton, which were once

known only to the postman,

are about to be thrust on the

world stage as neighbours of

family home. Northampton

A classic collection of kitchen

Iraly, built to professional stap-

dards to work better, and last

ideas from France, Germany and

becoming a hot destination. Just as Gracelands in Memphis became a shrine to Elvis. and Monaco cathedral a monument to Princess Grace, so Althorp will earn worldwide reknown next year when the museum, planned as a tribute to the Diana, Princess of Wales, opens in the grounds of

Princess's birthday.

The burial site will remain private to members of the family, although the island where the Princess lies will be on view, but what Althorp describes as an "appropriate memorial to the Princess" will be erected, and the museum -

Steamer, the no-fiss healthy way

to cook foud, retaining colour,

Two large stainless steel trays,

vitamins, nutrients and flamus.

and a 11/2 little reservoir make it

perfect for steaming, thawing,

warming, hanching, and a

a bain marie. For

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Sélection Magimix

a unique range for serious cooks

the Spencer's family home

from July 1 to August 31, the

itself, six miles away, is fast featuring family photographs, memorabilia and cine film will be built in the stable block in the grounds.

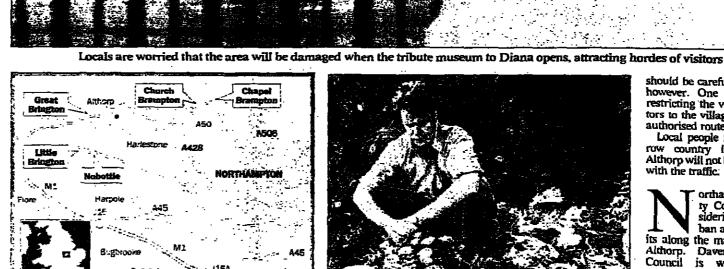
It is not yet known how many disciples of Diana will come to honour her, but tens, if not hundreds, of thousands are expected. At least 10,000 tourists annually pay homage to Princess Grace's burial 700,000 visit Gracelands.

Once, Northampton was just a place on the way to town will become the gateway to Althorp. Hotels are already fielding calls from tour groups who wish to stay next summer, and there is a premium on property in the area suitable for hotel accommodation.

Simon Hastie, general man-ager of the The Marriott at Daventry Hotel at Flore, the closest hotel to the house, says: 'We have had 15 enquiries from large tour groups wanting to stay in July and August. We have never had tour groups before, but they will not commit themselves until they are sure they can buy tickets into Althorp."

Hotels and inns in the area are shooting up in value. One businessman who wants to buy in the area complains that he can't find a hotel for love. nor money. "I think you could go to the market and demand at least 20 per cent more than three months ago," says a local estate agent.

John Sheppard of Robert Barry, a company specialising in the sales of hotels and inns. says pubs within ten to 15 miles of Althorp will do a



rouring trade. "The pubs. purticularly, because people will come on day trips.

At the Chicago Rock Cale in Northampton, which opened this week, manager Kate Mirravesky is expecting busloads of Americans, "Groups of them will come in once they have paid their respects," she predicts. The Post Office in Great Brington, a village on the estate of Aithorp park, is already seeing a steady stream of 20 to 30 visitors a day. Locals estimate that this will rise to 250 a day in the spring.

Americans are already buying tea towels, calendars and bookmarks from the village shop, as well as asking for anecdotes about the Princess. Many visitors come simply to pay their respects, says fan Lowry, the church warden of Great Brington church. De-spite cold weather, last weekend 100 tourists arrived at the church. Where once the building stood empty for most of the week, now local worthies man it for four hours a day to cater

for the influx. But Mr Lowry is cautious



Earl Spencer on the island where his sister is buried

such as public conveniences. for the visitors, reflecting a widely held wish that the area around Althorp should not become a Diana theme park. "If we provide the facilities. then more people will come."

Jurther out from Althorp, the corridor between Northampton and the estate itself is now attracting commercial interest. Stephen King from estate agents Strutt & Parker says: "We expect that some of the more traditional houses set close to the A428 may open

their doors." Some of the larger village houses open as B&Bs, and the odd gift shop is expected too, but most locals are still adopting a wait-andsce approach. 🕆 Ninian Sanders, pariner in

the Northampton agents Bidwells, is more bullish. The area has long been undervalued, he says. "It's been a bit of a secret until now." He expects prices to rise nearby, mainly because of improved rail links to London which is now just an hour away. Local people are anxious that the tourist explosion

should be carefully controlled however. One possibility is restricting the volume of visitors to the village by creating authorised routes.

Local people fear that narrow country lanes around Althorp will not be able to deal

ty Council is con-sidering a parking ban and speed limits along the main road past Althorp. Daventry District Council is working with Althorp and parish counc deal with the expected im

on the environment. Simon Bovey, a co spokesman, says: "Althorp is not a tourist attraction light a family burial site, so wedon't want to encourage people by offering accommodation. Of course, those who have admission to Althorp will be prov-

ided with facilities, but no provisions will be made for visitors without tickets." Whether such plans succeed. in keeping the area's character, and the memorial's dignity, is no more possible to predict than was the early

Additional research by Alex

death of Diana.





A night out with Edward Whitehouse, David Brunton and Simon Bligh and the house where Flion lived in Oxford





Ffion's father, Emyr, is a former director of the Eisteddfod. Her mother, Myra, is a magistrate and a Welsh tutor



Larking about in her college days as a brunette

Continued from page 1is cultural rather than political. Her pilgrimage to the heart of the British political establishment began in the middle-class Cardiff suburb of Rhiwbina. Her father Emyr is chief executive of the Arts Council of Wales and a former director of the National Eisteddfod. Her mother Myra is

a magistrate and Welsh tutor. Not that Ffion had it all her own way. Her elder sister, Manon, was also a high fiver and the two girls competed fiercely for the glittering prizes, with Flion determined never to come second even if that meant missing out on playground fun and games. Both were musical, with Manon favouring the harp and Ffion the clarinet, which she played with the National

Youth Orchestra of Wales.

As one classmate puts it: "Filon wasn't very well liked in school. She kept things to herself and was rather aloof. She was academic and hardworking but she always seemed rather old-fashioned and eccentric. She never had a boylriend and was known as a

bit of a snob." Manon went to Cambridge, collected a PhD and is now assistant private secretary to the Prince of Wales and when Fifton went to Oxford, her father was overheard to remark rather smugly: "There's no chance of us losing the boat race in this house."

Filon (three As and a B at A level) got a good degree in English and a master's by writing a thesis in Welsh on the poetry of the English writer Thomas Gray.

Manon, three years older and married to the Welsh baritone Jeremy Huw Williams, abandoned the tussle with Ffion only after learning of her sister's engagement.

family friend says: "Manon rang her father to be told that Fifion was marrying William. Admitting defeat, she replied: Well, that's the end of sibling rivalry"." By all accounts Ffion

blossomed at Jesus College, where she became chairman of the Weish Society and devised some bizarre swearing in ceremonies, mostly in-volving swinging the society's ceremonial sword about her head. One rowdy evening, a fellow student hurled the sword in the air and Ffion had to be hauled off to the Radcliffe Infirmary for stiches to a leg wound.

A university friend recalls: "She was still a swot in college but she made more of an effort to socialise. She had a hoyfriend and tried to wear trendy clothes. She would come out partying but was still hard-



That dress: oversold as a see-through number costing £2,000

working and competitive." Ffion's discretion is commented upon by virtually all her friends. One says, a touch cattily, that she would make the 'ideal corporate wife', the 'ideal corporate which, since she is marrying a

Another says that he was with her and a group of other people the night before she and William announced their engagement. "I didn't even know they were seeing each other," he admits. "And except for Manon. I don't think any of former management consul-tant, may be no bad thing. the others were in the know."



jor for the Tory leadership in 1995. Filon managed to stay above the fray. Redwood's allies counter that she was never really one of them and affect an indifference to her supposed talents. "I don't really have any view about her at all," one says.

Plion's tact is a trait that should stand her in good stead now that she is entering the snake-pit of national politics. So far, she has acquitted herself well, smiling at Wil-liam's side and keeping mum. Only that dress — oversold as a see-through lace number costing £2,000 — fell a little short of Liz Hurley dimensions when she was paraded by the PR men at the Tory

Her former men also appear to have taken the Taffia's vow of silence. Keith Scott, a French lecturer at Aberystwyth University, who went out with her for two years while she was at Jesus College, Oxford, has nothing but goodwill towards the happy couple. "I wish them the very best of luck," he says cordially, while declining to say if he had been invited to the wedding.

Another old flame, Darran Phillips, a £150,000-a-year financial planning consultant with Allied Dunbar in Cardiff, admits he has not been asked

friends". In spite of Mr Hague's financial acumen, Mr Phillips maintains that he will continue to supervise her financial affairs after her marriage. One London friend des-

cribes her as "a good time girl", and rather regrets that he has has not seen her more often recently at one of her former regular haunts, the Groucho Club in Soho.

"Central Office may have banned her from coming here since she started seeing William because of its rather louche reputation," he says. Regulars include Damien Hirst, Liam Gallagher and Chris Evans.

"She used to hang out here with her Welsh friends and there was a pianist she saw a lot of." Other habituées of the Groucho tell of a left-wing poet that Ffion took a shine to before she started stepping out

with Mr Hague.
Tomorrow Ffion and William will attend a party marking the second anniversary of SWS (which means kiss in Welsh) at a club in Hanover Square. The television weather girl Sian Lloyd will cut a cake shaped as a pair of lips. Conservative Party spin-doctors and the happy couple alike will hope that it is a good



corangie. It's final manuration period is spent in

Port casks, to produce its rosy hue and an astonishing blend

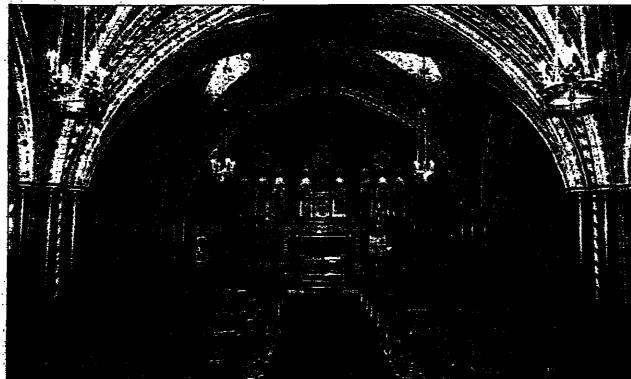
of aromas. It is one of a range of Glenmorangie special wood

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For those who nose.

finishes including Sherry and Madeira.

### The wedding chapel was once used as a stable and a coal cellar



The Medieval Crypt at Westminster has been the venue for many society weddings and MPs' funerals

he Medieval Crypt in the Palace of Westminster, where William Hague and Ffion Jenkins will tie the knot, was built as a chapel but in the past it has been used as a stable, a coal cellar and as the Speaker's changing room, Katherine Bergen writes. A ruling in 1924 dictated that the chapel does not come under any specific ecclesiastical jurisdiction. Along with Westminster Hall which it

adjoins, it was one of the few areas of the Palace that survived a fire in 1834. It is now used frequently for weddings, baptisms and the funerals of MPs.

In 1993, Ann Widdecombe was received into the Catholic Church in the crypt, in one of the few non-Protestant masses held there since the Reformation. The Reverend Ian Paisley duly protested. Labour MP Diane Abbott's baby was christened there and it has been the

venue for many society weddings. On seeing the Tory MP Peter Fry leave the chapel after marrying his much younger second wife in 1984, the then Speaker of the Commons, George Thomas, re-marked to a party of visiting dignitaries: "Isn't it splendid to see a father giving away his daughter?"

The service is expected to be traditional with the Speaker's Chaplain and a Weish minister both officiating.



The engaged couple enjoy a drink at the Carlton Club

ELDITED UM AND TWEED LED The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, is Tom Whitelaw, of Bearsden in Scotland

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BACK FloW (from left): The Kangoo Jump Boots are the fat-burners every high-filer will need on Booing Day to jump off Christmas excesses. 99.95, Harrods (0171-730 1234). Christmas star decoration, £1.50, Habilat (0645 334433). Baseball/soffball set. £34, which includes baseball gloves, bal, balls and cap, is a must for sporty kids and not-so grown-ups, The General Trading Company (0171-730 0411). The Havana Club Cigar Humidor, £2.200, is made from systemore with Spanish cedar interior trays, and holds up to 75 cigars. The Havana Club (0171-245 0895). On top is a sterling stive cigar cuttler, £115, Liberty (0171-734 1234). If he is travelling, pack a beby Christmas tree small enough to fit into a briefcasa, £5.50, Graham & Greene (0171-727 4594). Wrap him up in style in Gued's velvet seart, £265, in red and orange, Harvey Nicholos (0171-235 5000). The Activity Superstore has the Golifer's Utilimate Present: a round of golf with a professional, for Harvey Nichols (0171-235 5000). The Activity Superstore has the Gottler's Utilimate Present a round of golf with a professional, for beginners or edvanced players, £99 to £239 (01799 \$26526). Sick of him being stuck in traffic? Give The Trafficenaster, £169, which provides the latest information on roadworks and traffic jams, Harrods, as above The champagne case, £110, is the utilimate gift for the man who has everything; the leather case includes two glasses and space to his favourize bubbly, Ocean (0800 132985). Inside are Venus tridge magnets, £93-50, with domicalled lask and cups, The Scotch House (0171-581 2151). And on top is a silver mesh star, £11 95, and Churistmass reindeer, £2.50, The General Tracking Company (as above).

has a keyboard, dictaphone and deta-transfer capability. If the warmabe 007 lsn? knocked out by this James Bond-style watch from Omega, he will be if he finds out the price will be in the those out use place 51,095, Watches of Switzerland (0177-734 2389) The five-language translation, 259.95 from Harnods (as above), allows the globelrotter to converse wherever he is at the flick of a switch. If he is the first translation useful to see the sort of man who wants to see Images instantly, he will love the Panasonic DC 1000 digital

camera, which will allow him to view pictures on his PC, alter their colour and crop out unwanted memories, £399, Tecno (01442 215151). Help him to keep his studs and cufflinks together with this tan leather stud box, £55, Prol-(0171-498 3882) Wrench his heart with the ultimate toolkit, Cornolly (0171-235 3883), which contains every tool a handyman will need in the finest leather case. Made to order, from £1,200.

religious about sitting in front of his computer, the **Madorma mouse**-pad is for him, £15.95, Aria (0171-226 1021). Give him a prickly lock with the Tequilla Shooter Kit, D The Gluttonous Gardener (0171firmes, glasses, sall and a bottle of the best tequilia. A leather book, Ocean (as above), available in black or brown leather, £13.95 to black of prown seamer, 213.50 to 224.95, will keep his ideas in one place. If a bottle of wine in front of the felly is his idea of a good time, he will love Floyd's France — an bottles of wine, £12.99, Tesco (01992 632222), Victoria Wine (01483 715066), Caxton & Tower Wines (0181-758 4500). Silver mini baubles, £3.95 for 12, Habita (as above): The Magnetic Word Set, £14.95, initial ideas (01548 Set, 1785, Instal local (01546 831070) lets him spell out wat he is leading on the tridge door. For the adventurer, the chrome Space Pen, £17.50, Arta (as above) will be invaluable as it writes under over grease or in blazing heal

Photographs by Des Jer

# Antique furniture going for a song

o are you going to give us a song then, luv? comes the cheery call from a fellow browser, catching sight of opera star Lesley Garrett across the old barn showroom cluttered with antique pine

furniture. "Well, I might," teases Britain's No I soprano, looking up with a smile from the autograph books she is signing enthusiastically for three local schoolgirls. Ms Garrett is making one of her regular visits to Epworth Pine & Country Furniture in Epworth. North Lincolnshire.

Everybody up here seems to be on chatting terms with the hugely popular "people's diva". She was born and brought up just across the border in South Yorkshire and has a close-knit family of more than 50 relatives living in the area. Fiercely proud of her working-class roots. she has a weekend cottage just up the road. "I live in London these days but this is still home." she says. 'I get back whenever I can."

It was after she bought the cottage ten years ago and started doing it up that she first discovered the workshop where Richard Ellory and Bryan Chaffer had set up in business together, selling not only genuine antique pine furniture but also beautifully crafted reproduction pieces made from reclaimed timber.

"It was my sister, Jill, who put me onto them." she recalls. "Old pine was exactly what I needed for the cottage. When I went along I just fell in love with Richard Ellory's workshop and the way he works. He takes wood that looks as if it is only fit for the bonfire and a fortnight later he has turned it into a fantastic piece of antique pine furniture."

Ms Garrett has furnished her cottage from top to bottom with their pieces. "The first thing I bought was

When opera diva Lesley Garrett started doing up her cottage in Lincolnshire, there was only one place to go. Michael Cable reports

#### favourite shop

a Welsh dresser," she remembers. The base was original and the top half was made so cleverly from reclaimed timber that you couldn't tell the difference. I was interested in

Then there was a rather unusual pine chaise longue which they let me have for £120 and which has since turned out to be rather valuable. Perhaps we'd better not mention that!" One of the farmhouse tables in which the shop specialises, several chairs, a corner washstand, a blanket chest and various picture frames followed. "Every time I finished a room I would come here to furnish it." Ms Garrett says.

She had bought the cottage and had thrown herself into the job of doing it up as a sort of "healing therapy" after the break-up of a relationship had left her feeling "fed up and unloved", she explains. "The cottage was in a very sad, dilapidated state and, a bit like me at the time, needed some care and attention. And I thought - I'm going to buy this little place and love it up', as we say in Yorkshire. I filled in every little crack myself and it was like a healing process for me, too." It certainly seemed to do the trick because no sooner had she finished

the restoration three years later than

she famously met her GP husband. Peter, on a blind date and was so smitten that she moved in with him only days later. At the same time, she landed a record deal and made the first of a string of best-selling albums. The latest, A Soprano Inspired, has gone straight to No I

in the classical charts.

It was quite a while before Messrs
Ellitry and Chaffer realised who their regular customer was.

"We had no idea she was famous," Mr Ellory says. "She was just this lovely, bubbly, bags-of-charac-

ter type of person. Then, after she'd been coming here regularly for a couple of years, I was watching the Last Night of the Proms on the television one night and, suddenly, there she was! I got such a shock. I literally fell off the

riendly, funny, feisty and refreshingly down-to-earth. the 42-year-old prima donna relishes the ordinary, oneof-us treatment she still gets on her home patch.

"I'm nobody special up here — just the local girl," she insists cheerfully in her Yorkshire accent.

as blunt as ever. Her glamorous image, her readiness to sing pop songs and showtimes as well as the classics, and her enthusiasm for appearing on tele-vision programmes like Noel's House Party and Birds of a Feather have caused raised eyebrows among the snootier opera set. Her forthcoming television duet with Lily Savage (on December 21) will



Lesley Garrett with Richard Ellory and Bryan Chaffer at Epworth Pine & Country Furniture in Lincolnshire

undoubtedly have them once more reaching for the smelling salts.

"Good!" she grins mischievously. There is an element that fears that the more popular something becomes, the cheaper and nastier it gets, but I would argue vehemently against them. We need to break down the snobbery surrounding opera and classical music.

You can make it popular without making it trivial. People just need to be exposed to it, as was proved by Pavarotti. Nessun Dorma and the

World Cup. We need to learn from pop singers in making opera more accessible, otherwise it will die."

● Epworth Pine & Country Furniture, 35 Station Road, Epworth, Lines DN9 UY (01427 875155). Open 10am-5pm,

#### **GADGETS**

And your wind a tiny 360 degrees to take off the shell leaving the egg intact. But it helps to have asbestos fingers. since you have to steady the egg to work the

gadget. You also need fireproof digits when grabbing toast the second it pops up. So try minia-ture wooden Toast instead, with a



built-in magnet for storing on the toaster "or nearest appliance".

The Banana Split from Taylor & Ng is a 10in banana-shaped plastic stencil, in yellow, with a series of thin cross-way slats. One push and the peeled fruit is neatly sliced into perfect mouth-fuls for banana sandwiches or banoffi pies.

TIM WAPSHOTT ◆ Egg Decapper, £3.50 plus p&p, from Presents for Men (01295 750100); Toast Tongs, £6 plus p&p, from Purves & Purves (0870 603 0205); Banana Split, £1.75, from Taylor & Ng (0181-942 9361).

Discover how delicious a good night's sleep can be. SEVEN SEAS It's widely available at all Seven Seas ni belf you gilax into steep. Slumber Cup's stockists, so why not turn to Slumber Cup a hot drink, it's an ideal way to get ready Helps you made from B vitamins and flavoured with hefore you turn in. retax into sleep:

# Mere slips of things

alk about British knitwear, and the first thing that comes to mind is bulky, chunky. Arran styles -- sloppy joes and jumpers worn by country aunties because they are warm, comfortable and

This year, however, the knitted and crocheted wear so beloved of the Women's Insti-

tute has been revitalised by top

designers, who have shown a range of modern knitwear alongside more traditional Catriona Campbell of the International Wool Secretariat

says designers have taken to the material because it is versatile and can be used to cover the female form in an exciting and contemporary way". The latest looks are far from the British stereotypes: wispy and fairy-like, they are strung together with cobweb strands that hug the body in ferninine walts. Many are woven in the finest denier. which drapes beautifully across the body or can be seductively wrapped to enhance womanly curves.

"Crocheted items are espe-cially feminine, as they can be made of any denier, so they can be made to look delicate for evening or dressed down for day," says Lainey Keogh, the Irish knitwear specialist. "Women like to feel like women, And our range makes

them feel that way, as well as making them appear modern and lithe." If proof were needed that women like Keogh's range,

there was plenty at her show.
Naomi Campbell and Helena
Christensen both agreed to
waive their modelling fee in
return for one of her dresses.
As well as "beautiful nearm

As well as "beautiful, warm, jewel-coloured" sweaters, Keogh showed a ravishing

sheer black fishnet knitted dress worn by Jodie Kidd, fine denier mohair tops in amethyst, tomato and amber, and a long, fine-knit coat trimmed with ostrich modelled by Helena Christensen.

Keogh's creations have also become coveted items in Hol-lywood, and her lacy evening dresses are worn by Demi Moore, Liz Taylor and Isa-

bella Rossellini.
John Rocha's creations have also been in demand this year, particularly the hand-knitted and hand-crocheted dresses which he hand-dyes to keep the silky textures.

"I have always used fine knits in my collections," he gossamer layer skimming the body. For spring/summer 1998, I have featured delicate knits and fine crochets throughout the collection in different textures, from fring-ing and ribbon yarn to fragile textures. The brave can wear them on their own, but most

women will wear them over a dress or camisole." Although skimpy dresses are ideal for summer, they can be adapted for winter, combined with soft woollen coats, light cashmere throws and even straight-leg pants. And, because of their transparency, the fine wool combinations are perfect to wear in layers -

with silk underslips in warm

tones or with delicately pat-

terned tights for a warm an opulent look.

They can be given a bohemi-an look by tearning them with thick, fur-trimmed cardigans and square-toed boots or an elegant twist by wearing them with fine jewellery and high heels, or they can be combined with classic separates for everyday wear.

And, because most of the items are made of natural fibres, the dresses are not only comfortable, but they also allow the body to breathe. Which means that, even in the hottest parties over the Christmas season, women in fine knits will merely glow.

LISA GRAINGER



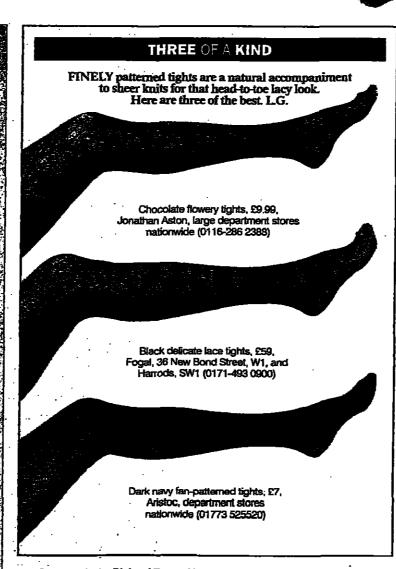


ABOVE: Blue, white and black zig-zag silky knit dress, £29.99, Jeffrey Rogers, The Plaza, Oxford Street, W1, and branches nationwide (01923 474400)

LEFT: Brown and white delicate sheer top, £98, John Richmond, Harrods, SW1; Selfridges, W1 (0171-978 5278). Chocolate fine-knrt A-line skirt, £239, T.S.E. Harvey Nichols, as before. Beige square-toe shoes, £49.99, Ravel, branches nationwide (0171-436 3126)

FAR LEFT: Khaki wool crêpe fine-knit vest, £199, T.S.E, Harvey Nichols, SW1 (0171-263 4433). Plum suede jeans, £259, Joseph, 26 Sloane Street, SW1





Photographs by Richard Burns. Hair and make-up by Sally Kvalheim for Jo Hansford (0171-963 2236). Styling by Amandip Uppel



#### 'My grandfather would have been so proud to see his grandson waving a flag at royalty at a grand ceremonial occasion'

process, the one whereby having . children turns you, despite all your resolutions to the contrary, into your own parents. As a small girl I remember being both baffled and enraged by my mother and father's mysterious interest in that triple-distilled essence of boredom, the weather forecast. The weather, I felt, would do whatever it was destined to do, regardless of whether my parents were on its case or not. And anyway, why couldn't they just look out of the window?

Yet now, every morning at five to seven, and again at five to eight, I find myself, quite inexplicably, given that I work all day in a windowless office. shielded alike from the heat of the sun and the winter's rage, going, "shhih! Alexander, do shut up!" as Michael Fish drones his strangely compelling recital of southerlies veering north-westerly and pockets of frost in exposed areas.

Last week was a particularly anxious time on the weather front. Even Alexander took to falling silent at the vital moment. We were keen to know what was in store for the Oueen's Golden Wedding lunch. Not that we usually take such a close interest in Her Majesty's Some day my prince will come ry offices, or a hostel

People's Banquet, the Prince of Wales was to escort a coach party of his European relatives down to Greenwich for a hot lunch, and Commander Maughan, of the Royal Naval College, had had the inspired idea of inviting children from the local schools to form a welcoming party — but only if the weather was line.

So, banners were made, saying "Welcome" in as many European languages as the parents could muster, flags were laboriously coloured "Mum, what does the Belgian flag look like?" "Haven't a clue. Can't you just do the French one, like everyone else?"), but Thursday morning dawned wet and spiteful. We drove to school under a sky of lurid grey. Blackheath, as we sloshed across it, had turned into a quaking bog of the sort that you could imagine engulfing entire classes of small children, to be dug up, thousands of years hence, by eager archaeologists, marvelling at the perfect

of their little acrylic

Alexander. really. You won't be seeing the kings sit down to dinner and the aucens stand up to dance after all. was amazingly disappointed more put out than Alexander, who had gone to all the

trouble of making the flags and banners. I think it was the idea of how proud my grandfather, sentimental as only an old sailor can be, would have been to see his great-grandson among the children at what, presumably, will be one of the last ceremonial occasions to take place at the Royal Naval College before its trans-

LIFE AND SOUL



do today?"
"Well," said the child, with the degage air of one who spends so much time hob-nobbing with the Hohenlöhes that it has become a bit of a bore, really. "it dried up at lunchtime, so we went and waved our

for the homeless, or

whatever fate awaits

it. I sat at work all

day, listening to the

rain beating on the roof and minding terrifically about all

those flags unwaved

and banners un-

ander when I got

"So," I said to Alex-

hoisted.

"Oh," I said, thrilled. "And did you see

"And Jamie got kissed by the Queen of Spain." A pause. "Girlie!"
Coo. Well, there's regal for you. 1

opened my mouth to ask more. What was she wearing? Did she have her crown on? Why didn't she kiss you? Were you by any chance sniffing in that revolting fashion? But Alexander had clearly had enough of the subject, and headed me off like an equerry deflecting an importu-nate subject. "Now, mum," he said. "Miss Cartwright says it's nearly Advent." So, what do you want for Christmas?"

this is a very good question. The standing list of what I want (star home. "What did you sapphire, three-gallon vat of Apres L'Ondée) still stands, of course, but what I actually need is something to help me get to grips with this house. What with the hot water flood, and the huge, slimy green fungus that has sprouted just by the back door, and the cold water flood (this last prompted an interesting rever-sion to type in Alexander, who drifted

into my bedroom on the morning happened, saying, in a tone of languid detachment which he certainly did not learn from me, "is there meant to be all that water on the floor downstairs?"), the charming, slightly decayed cottage that I bought four years ago seems to be turning into the House of Usher.

The last straw came on Friday, when I stepped into the bathroom tugged sharply on the light pull — and it came off in my hand. Now, I am not my grandmother, who was once intercepted, climbing, in a triumph of self-confidence over ability, a stepladder with a carving knife in her hand, intending to cut down the electric light to which she had, for some reason, taken a dislike. I am perfectly prepared to admit that anything to do with electricity has me beaten.

But as I took my shower that evening, by the guttering chiaroscuro of a Price's night light, it occurred to me that the time has come to abandon my silly, frivolous ways. What I had better have for Christmas is a do-it-yourself manual: a thick volume called something like The Idiot Woman's Guide to Domestic Intelligence - or How to Get the Upper Hand in Your Home.



Marriage counsellor Madeleine Kingsley meets John Gottman, whose mix of science and therapy

offers hope to troubled couples

#### WHY MARRIAGES SUCCEED OR FAIL AND HOW YOU CAN MAKE **YOURS LAST**



JOHN GOTTMAN

silent sulks

Arguing, he says, "can be

one of the healthiest things a

couple can do", provided they

make up easily and are as free

with affection as anger.



Hard times: Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor, the embittered couple in Whose Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

# Get the hell out of a heavenly match

has unusual designs Lon your marriage. John Gottman. Professor of Psychology at the University of Washington, is here to tell us how any couple - even one at divorce's door - can improve their relationship through a repair and maintenance programme develop-

**EXCLUSIVE OFFER** 

Lab". Finding that seven years after marriage, 75 per cent feel less happy than they originally did. Professor Gottman set about studying what researchers had sorely neglected: a scientific study of what made up the 25 per cent.

His controversial approach involves couples having ECG electrodes attached to chests.

tors and a video camera closing in on every expression

and gesture. Contrary to myth, he found it was not financial ease or compatibility that made the difference, but the way happy couples steered their way through disagreements without drowning in the destruc-

If the amount of time spent touching, smiling, laughing and paying compliments outweighs by a ratio of five to one the time spent at odds, then you have got what Professor Gottman calls "the magic". "I THE SEE TIMES think a good marriage is like a jazz quartet." he says. "It's about the music a couple makes together ... and the

way they improvise." In the past 20 years. Professor Gottman (55, twice married, with a seven-vear-old daughter), has analysed not just the feelings but the physiology of hundreds of husbands and wives: the way their pulse rate. respiration and blood pressure react in everyday conversation and strife. Over here, he may not yet

have the char-show clout of marriage gurus Dr Ruth (sex enhancement) or John Grav

(Women are from Venus, Men are from Mars) but in America, the cerebral psychologist who has coupled the appliance of science with the art of love is

hot property. The professor fields 20 calls a day from anxious spouses and also deals with a punishing schedule of long-distance flights, lectures, counsellor training programmes and fruitful weekend workshops for 100 couples. "After 24-hour follow-up sessions, 35 per cent say their marriage has improved from terrible to pretty OK," he says, "and if they follow my programme - five hours a week - then it's going

to keep getting better." Some people, he says, "aren't prepared to restructure their time. They say 'If I have to talk to my partner in order to have a good marriage, then to hell with that. But couples who make the biggest gains have a two-minute morning leave-raking ritual. a 20minute evening reunion to unwrap the day, and a bedtime kiss.

"Five minutes more at some point in the day goes on a brief phone call, a note, or maybe a thank-you for doing the grocery shopping. At least two hours a week is to be splurged on a date away from the

children." Confident in the long-term potential for vibrant, powersharing marriages. Professor Gottman provides a welcome antidote to reactionaries who have met rising American divorce rates with outraged moral panic.

n the past year five Southern states have introduced an optional covenant marriage for those couples who have agreed to divorce only in extreme circumstances such as physi-

"It's an attempt to oust nofault divorce in a sinister kind of way," says Professor Gottman. "I can see couples pressured into it as one says, 'i am sure you'd choose the covenant if you really loved me, honey ::

Heaven forbid that should happen here, where we have the highest divorce rate in Europe. In one generation. says the Office of Statistics, the numbers marrying have halved and the numbers divorcing have trebled.

Nearly three million children grow up in step-families. Four out of ten UK marriages end in divorce at a public cost of more than £4 billion a year. If Professor Gottman's disciplined, down-to-earth techniques help to reverse the tide of marital misery, we could be counting our social blessings. As a couples counsellor, 1

am not convinced that the reserved British are ripe for revealing their problems with communication, in-laws and sexual desire. For many, simply seeking help and trusting a professional stranger is hard enough.

"With impartial observations and statistics," claims Professor Gottman. 'you can hear nature tell you what is true." But I doubt that he has rumbled the universal

solution to discord a deux. Marriage is a coat that comes in many designs and colours. One size will never fit all.

However, some will find Professor Gottman's clear prescriptions distinctly more palatable than exploration through "talking therapy". And, at the risk of gender generalisation, I suspect the chief beneficiaries will be men. who fare far worse in divorce than women, of whom 71 per cent are the initiators.

Among divorced men, 51 per cent later regret splitting; they earn on average 10 per cent less than otherwise identical married men and are at greater risk of heart disease. For men, the professor's appeal is as a practical problem-solver rather than a theorist.

My workshops attract men who read science fiction, think logically and believe that technical research really counts, he says. "They are builders as well as lawyers."

Gottman thinks women

have made huge emotional and lifestyle shifts in the past 30 years, and that it is now men's turn to catch up. He agrees that women have historically taken responsibility for family happiness, and are more adept at reading feelings and opening discussion on emotional issues. So his "love labs" may be a venue where men can learn what comes

naturally to women. Workshops begin with his own Love Map board game, which tests what couples know about each other. "Some husbands know a lot about their wives world. They've seen her in the workplace, they know her cast of friends, her least favourite relatives, her favourite novels, dreams and concerns. But if they realise they could know an awful lot more. it's not painful: it's fun. It's gratifying to hear them say 'Oh, is this what she really wants? I can definitely do

· Pro Program

Army Bar

and the same

1-1-4

" '<u>\*</u>

41

Professor Gottman's ideal is to prevent couples giving up on marriage too easily. But he admits to putting a scientific spin on the Old Testament text: "Two are better than one, because they have good re-ward for their labour."

 John Gottman sneaks at the One to One conference on Wednesday, December 3 (0171-831 5261). His book, Why Marriages Succeed or Fail (£9.0%), is published by Bloomsbury

# Two-night city cruise to Hamburg or Amsterdam from only £49

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ATOL 3157. This holiday is operated by Scandinavian Seaways Limited, a company independent of Times Newspapers Limited **CHANGING TIMES** 

#### The Woody Allen theory One couple's verdict on Gottman: heard, show interest and ask

helley and Jonathan Bloom booked in for Bloom booked in for John Gottman's first Seattle workshop in 1996. Jonathan, 47, is a health administrator and Shelley. works in community educarion. They have been married for i2 years and have two

"Our marriage wasn't terrible at that particular time. because we'd settled down and come to accept things in each other," says Shelley. But there were still some resentments. We'd had our ruckiest time in the first three vears of marriage.

Jonathan had unresolved problems from his first marriage, and I couldn't understand why everything wasn't blissful when 1'd found the love of my life."

Shelley and Jonathan were surprised by the diversity of couples they met at Gottman's workshop: "Some were engaged, and some were actually divorced but hoping to get back together. But although there were so many of us, the whole weekend was structured around

'He helped us laugh at ourselves' privacy and there was plenty selves and our situation. of room, physically, to find it.

able group disclosure. John and his wife Julie would explain an exercise and we'd then go off and do it in pairs. "It was great to realise from his statistics that we were not the only ones having problems - that it was quite normal; in fact, to be expected - that you'd feel lonely at times in a marriage and divided by completely different private thoughts

about an issue."

There was no uncomfort-

(Gottman, for instance, uses a scene from the Woody Allen movie. Annie Hull, to highlight a classic disagreement about sex. When Annie's therapist asks her how often she and Alvie sleep together, she says, "Constantly. Three times a week." Alvie's view is. "Never. Three times a week."

Gottman, say the Blooms,

He'd say, 'Have you ever . .?' and we'd find ourselves nodding and recognising 'yes. that sounds just like us'. "The big emphasis on day one," says Shelley, "was on

huilding fondness and admiration. In one exercise, Jonathan had to choose five words from a long checklist of positives that he thought best described me. I guess some really embattled couples struggled over that. It brought me to tears, because Jonathan didn't normally give me compliments. I can still remember that he picked out strong, beautiful, sensitive, caring and intelligent'."

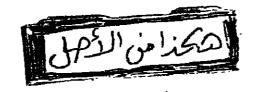
n the second day, the Blooms were invited to look at the main issue in their relationship. "We were each given time to talk without the other one interrupting. Jonathan was "helps us to laugh at ouronly to tell me what he'd

more questions. "It may not sound major.

but for me, one sore issue was the use of TV. I hate TV, and I didn't like Jonathan having it on every evening so that it killed conversation and the kids relied on it. If I went to turn it off or impatiently pushed the mute button, it caused a lot of tension. I'd never liked to push it too far because it seemed such a flashpoint.

But it felt safe in the workshop. I was able to let go of some resentment and just having Jonathan listen was in itself a help. He said he understood and would try very hard."

The Blooms say that they felt "reconnected and therefore physically more affectionate" after their weekend. We weren't all of a sudden rocking round town kissing, they say. But in a less dramatic way, we felt there was more trust and that emotionally, we'd found a deeper level. It hasn't worn off: in fact, we continue to see very slight, subtle changes."



#### Josa Young

reports on how today's foundlings have coped with

being abandoned at birth

ost of us date our lives from the day we were born. But for a ins when they are found in a bus helter or a telephone box. These children are known as foundlings a label attached to abandoned babies that has not changed since Henry Fielding wrote his novel The History of Tom Jones — a Foundling, in the mid-18th century.

Tomorrow the concluding epi-sode to the BBC dramatisation of the novel will be shown and although I am not going to spoil the ending for you, suffice it to say that unlike most foundlings. Tom does find out who his mother is.

For Sandra Webster, there has been no happy ending. She was found on a dark, chilly evening by the editor of a now-defunct newspaper behind his office in King's Cross. It was 6.30pm on November 8, 1955. She was about three weeks old. Years later, the editor's daughter wrote to tell her she was healthy when found and to tell her the exact circumstances of her discovery but Sandra will not divulge this. She says: "I can't say what I was wrapped in I need to keep something back, just in case someone comes forward."

Originally called Elizabeth Gray - after the Queen and the nearest road to which she was found, as is the custom — her name was changed to Sandra when she was adopted. She grew up, became a nurse and married. All went well until the birth of a daughter sparked off post-natal depression. Her condition was provoked, she believes, by unresolved feelings about being abandoned.

Since then she has counselled more than 60 fellow foundlings through the National Organisation for Counselling of Adoptees and Parents (Norcap), which runs a foundling sub-group. "You think you are the only one." she says. "It helps to know there are others."

In England and Wales since 1977, babies in this category have been registered separately on the Aban-doned Children's Register after six months to a year of police inquiries.

The numbers vary wildly, in the first year there were five. They hovered in single figures until 1983. when they shot up to 16. They rose during the recession of the late 1980s, with a record 18 in 1989. There are slightly more girls found than boys, although whether this is because girls are tougher at birth and more likely to survive exposure is not known.

Little Catherine Nightingale is set to be the first to be registered this year. At 5.40am on May 15, an door to bring in the papers. On the step was a holdall containing a very small newborn baby girl wrapped in a tea towel and T-shirt. The newspaper delivery men said she had not been there an hour earlier, when they dropped the papers. Some desperate girl chose her moment — she knew that newsagents open early. "We all think she was left to be found." says her case worker Mary Cook.

Sandra confirms that few habies



# 'She will never know where her baby is now'

are found in "negative circumrarely left to die. Catherine's mother must have been very young behind.

because the baby weighed only 41b in spite of being healthy and full-term. The police handed the baby over to the out-of-hours social worker, who named her Catherine after her first foster mother and Nightingale after a nearby street.

The police carried out an exhaustive investigation but nobody came forward, so she will be

In North London last year there was a less typical case. A young woman admitted herself to the

labour ward of North Middlesex

hospital and gave birth. She spoke

stances" -- in other words, they are trying to find an interpreter, she vanished, leaving her baby girl

It is difficult to under-

stand in this liberal age,

where illegitimacy and

single parenthood carry

no stigma, why any

woman would abandon

her baby. "At least I can

comfort myself that the

social climate at the

time made single par-

They are nearly always left where they will

enthood impossible." says Şandra Webster. Today most adoptees be found'

can trace their birth parents, although some choose not to. Andy McNab, author of the SAS bestseller Bravo Two Zero, has no desire to trace the woman who abandoned him in November 1959

in a Harrods carrier bag on the

steps of Guy's Hospital in London. The couple who adopted me did a great job and I never felt the impulse to look for anyone else. As far as I'm concerned, they are my

Reunions between adoptees and their famous parents, however, do pop up regularly in the papers: Clare Short and Joni Mitchell recently fulfilled two adoptees' fantasies about having celebrity parents. "I feel I am a jigsaw," said one adoptee trying to find his parents. "All my pieces are there, but the ones at the bottom are blank."

But for the foundling there is no trace — the blank cannot be filled. The National Contact Register will not list them because their cases are considered closed.

"You know nothing about yourself or your family," says Sandra. "For instance, my husband is average height but my elder son is



Henry Fielding's famous foundling from The History of Tom Jones, played by Max Beesley on BBC1

already over six feet tall with size 13 feet. Where does that come from?" Dr Malcolm Smith, a Durham University anthropologist, has studied child abandonment

throughout history. He concluded

that it was a haphazard business in Britain, but became a form of family planning elsewhere — a system that originated in 14thcentury Italy. Dr Smith says: "Every town in southern Europe

had its foundling hospital. The hospital had a revolving cradle rather like the night safe in a bank - into which you popped your unwanted baby before pushing it into the wall, knowing that rudimentary care lay within — although mortality rates were high. in some places 100 per cent.

"Jean-Jacques Rousseau. 18th-century philosopher, aban-doned his five illegitimate children in this way. If you made a premarital mistake in those days in a you untit to wed. Without the baby, you would be a better prospect."

Sandra says: "A lot of our sorrow isn't for us. It is for the women desperate enough to leave us. They have had to live their whole lives with the guilt, and they will never know what happened to their

● Norcap (National Organisation for Counselling of Adoptees and Parents), 112 Church Road, Wheatley, Oxfordshire X33 ILU.

#### CELEBRITIES WHO MADE IT ON THEIR OWN



among the bullrushes



SAS author Andy McNab: left on the steps of Guy's Hospital



Novelist Harold Robbins: abandoned at eight days



Edith Piaf: abandoned by her mother when she was two



Designer Bruce Oldfield:

# Grand National for gadgeteers

tion mattress, the inflatable chamber pot, the faecal-collecting walking stick. They all sound like spoof ads from Private Eye. But the biggest laugh is that they are genuine. Not only that, some-

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Inventors may be zany, but some are also wealthy, says James Rampton one has gone to the trouble of

registering them with the Pat-ent Office in London. All these hare-brained schemes are featured in Great British Inventions, edited by Mark Tanner. "When it comes

to ingenuity, Britain still rules the waves," he says. Figures from the Japanese trade ministry show that since the Second World War more than 50 per cent of worldwide patents have emanated from the UK, against 25 per cent

from the United States and 5

per cent from Japan. Who else but a Brit would have dreamt up a cereal bowl that stops your cornflakes becoming too soggy, or the combination backpack, campbed and frame tent? Indeed, 200 British inventors are gathering this weekend at the Barbican for the London International Inventors Fair, with inventions ranging from hand-free hairdryers to fold-

ing wheelbarrows.

David Wardell, the editor of Inventors World magazine, reckons that this British peculiarity is because "we're imaginative. It's something about being an island race. We don't just sit around, we get on with things. There's also a romance

attatched to it." Iain Andrew, a part-time actor in the Scottish television soap High Road and a fulltime inventor, has devised such innovations as the ex-tendable bath. "I lived in a flat in Glasgow which had only a shower," he says. "I thought there was enough room for a bath in there, but it would need to slide back. So I made a model of one and approached the Patent Office. Necessity

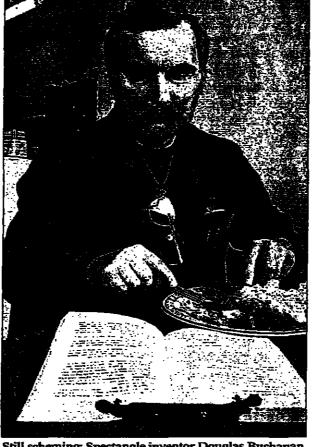
He went on to dream up the slightly less practical concept of a portable mirror-ball. I went to a U2 concert, where they had a 40ft-wide mirror ball, and I thought, I'd like one of those. So I went home, got out my soldering iron and linked 150 CDs together with paper clips. My mirror ball is 6ft in diameter and it collapses for storage into a shoe box. I'm thinking of patenting it."

Mr Andrew is typical of the Great British Inventor: dogged, imaginative and just the right side of barking. He puts our affinity for innovations down to another constant of

British life: the poor climate. "Historically, we have a hell of a high invention ratio," he says, "and it's probably to do with our inclement weather. If you're indoors for 18 hours a day in, say, Lewis in the Outer Hebrides, then you've got a lot of time to think of ways to get out. We're all mad."

quick glance at the history of inventing bears that out "My favourite is a patent from the 1960s for a birthing table," Mr Wardell says. "The unfortu-nate mother in labour is strapped to the table, and the doctor pulls a lever to make it revolve. The idea is that the centrifugal force helps deliver the baby. There is even a net provided to catch the child."

Mr Wardell also comes up with "a hat with a gun attached, invented in Britain by a Mr. Pratt at the turn of the century. When the prototype was tested, the unfortunate guinea pig had his neck broken by the recoil and died. But the inventor still went ahead and patented it. It's that



Still scheming: Spectangle inventor Douglas Buchanan

indomitable British spirit." Mr Wardell defends the reput-ation of inventors. Their image has suffered because "it's easier to have a laugh at something. But there are hundreds of amateur inventors out there and they're not all nutters.

"The main quality they need is tenacity. For example, Christopher Cockerell went around with a coffee-can soldered on to the end of a hairdryer to demonstrate his idea for the hovercraft. He was laughed at, but the rest is history."

Inventing can also be seen as the creative equivalent of winning the lottery. Douglas Buchanan is hoping for that kind of success with the inventions coming out of his Shropshire workshop. He is responsible for such devices as

the Spectangle (a contraption for hanging glasses around your neck) and the Bookminda which, when you are dining alone, "fights the paperback you want to read, tames it and holds it flat, allowing you to use your knife and fork".

#### HOW TO BE **AN INVENTOR** Don't tell anyone about

even your family. ■ Prove that no one else has had the same idea.

Register your invention with an explanatory drawing at the Patent Office. This will cost £25. At this stage you might consider employing a patent agent who will draft you a watertight application. But that could set you back by as much as

A year later, for another El30, the Patent Office publishes your idea. Once the Office is satisfied it is original, for a further £130 you are issued with a full patent. This will still only apply

in the UK. You need to egister with overseas Patent Offices individually. Cost is about £2,000 per country. A worldwide patent costs about £140,000.

Mr Buchanan admits that the most unlikely concepts can succeed. "Someone came to me with a little revolving electric motor on a lolly stick so the child doesn't have to lick the lolly. I'd automatically say 'next'. But the guy who invented it is now a millionaire living in Hawaii. He sells them for \$1 each, and they cost 10 cents to produce.

Perhaps we should all buy shares in the nightmare prevention mattress.

 Great British Inventions, edited by Mark Tanner (Fourth Estate,

■ The London International Inventions Fair continues this weekend at the Barbican. Present this copy of The Times at the door and pay only £4 for a £12 ticket.



was the mother of invention."

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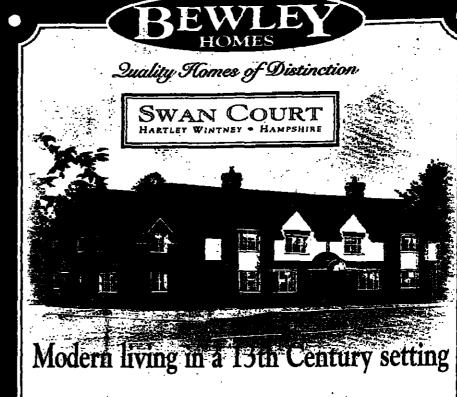
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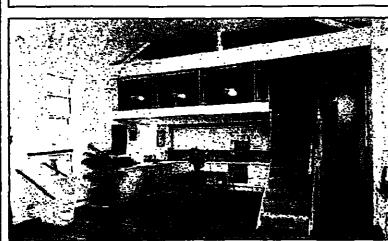
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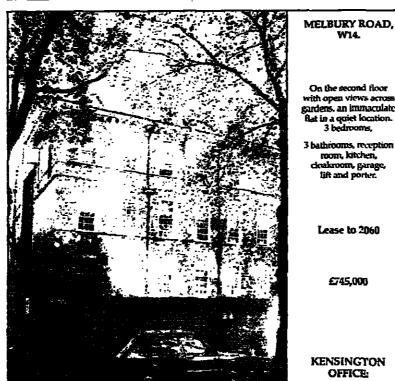
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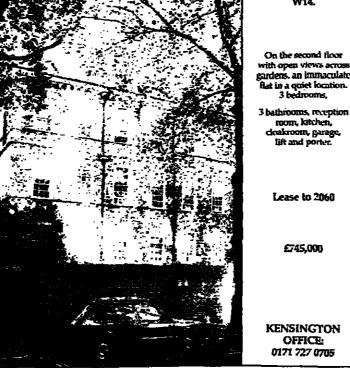
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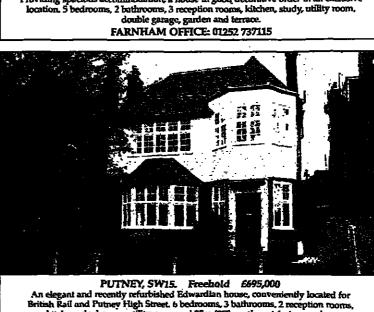










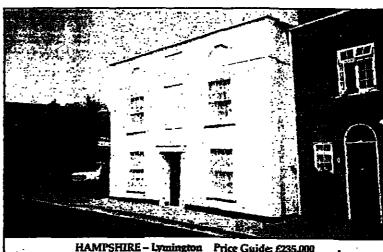


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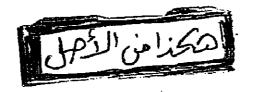
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## A little polish for the family jewels



Knebworth House, national treasure and superior rock festival site

Some of England's finest stately homes could be saved with fresh Government

funding. Rachel Kelly reports

wners of some of En-gland's finest historic houses, parks and gardens have a spring in their step even with the approach of midwinter. This month, they heard Chris Smith, the Heritage Secretary, sing their praises - in return. they gave him a standing ovation.

Private owners were the best guardians of historic stately homes. Mr Smith said at the AGM of the Historic Houses Association. "So we must make it possible for two-thirds of the nation's built heritage to remain in secure private ownership."

For once, this is not mere rhetoric. Thanks to the National Lottery, the Government has a bit of extra cash for hard-pressed aristocrats. Through English Heritage, it is to provide about £3 million to give owners of more modest historic properties "rapid assistance".

As Mr Smith said: "I welcome the 'stitch-in-time' principle, under which early work to secure the weatherproofing of a building can save more extensive repairs later."

Labour has been surprisingly supportive of stately homeowners in Government. As Giles Worsley. deputy director of the Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, points out: "Despite occasional threats of punative taxation, the country house has done remarkably reil under Labour."

English Heritage has the extra

funds because it will no longer be funding the conservation area partnership schemes, which helped historic areas in financial need. In future, this is to be funded by the

Heritage Lottery Fund. Stately homeowners themselves will be eligible for funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund under the National Heritage Act 1997, expected to be in force by the end of the year. A flood of applications is expected, but historic homeowners must first prove that there is a clear public as well as heritage benefit from any repairs.

The Historic Houses Association (HHA) estimates that it needs £130 million of Government funding for major repairs to the fabric of its buildings. The association represents 1,400 historic homeowners, including Lord Cobbold, who owns Knebworth near Stevenage in Hertfordshire, and Lord Bath, who owns Longleat in Wiltshire.

A new HHA survey shows that 45 million people visit its properties - 250,000, for instance, crammed themselves into Knebworth over two days in the summer of 1996 to see Oasis perform. And nearly half a million visited the Safari Park at Knowsley Hall in Merseyside last year.

Richard Wilkin, HHA directorgeneral, says: "The houses are central to Britain's biggest industry - tourism. Forty-six per cent of

SUSSEX



Philip Howard, with wife Elizabeth and children William and Sandra, needs help with the upkeep of Naworth Castle in Cumbria

foreigners who visit come to see our heritage. The Government should recognise our contribution to tourism by helping with costs for reroofing and stonework, for example, which are impossible for most homeowners to meet on their own.

In its latest survey, the HHA estimates that there are 500 houses which are eligible for Government funding because they are open to the public. Each house needs an average of £150,000 spent on repairs. Mr Wilkin says: "However well-

endowed these estates are, very few owners can afford these repairs." Philip Howard and his wife Elizabeth are among those who could benefit from the Government's new largesse. They live in Naworth Castle, near Carlisle in Cumbria, a romantic border fortress dating back to 1335.

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Mr Howard runs a corporate entertaining business at the house and caters for about 35 weddings each year. Naworth was also used as Mr Rochester's home, Thornfield, in LWT's adaptation of Jane Evre. broadcast this year. But Mr Howard still faces an annual maintenance bill of £150,000 to keep the 14th-century house going.

he income from his various successful business enterprises means that Mr Howard will roughly break-even this year on the cost of running the house. But the house, which attracts about 15,000 visitors each year, still needs about £1 million worth of outstanding repairs.

The roofs have had it," he says. "One entire wing is full of dry rot, and we need to upgrade our wiring. If this work was done to the standard approved of by English Heritage, the cost would be around £1 million.

Since taking over the property in 1994. Mr Howard has yet to receive a grant to help to pay for repairs. "Of course we could just sell up," Mr Howard says. But he points out that if he did, the contents of the house would be separated from their historic home. The 100ft great hall has a Gobelin tapestry, and there are other family possessions.

As Mr Wilkin, from the HHA, says: "What is special about these houses is that they have been in the same family for generations, and they have that family's possessions." Stately homeowners are currently eligible for £5 million a year of grants from English Heritage, and its Scottish and Welsh equivalents.

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They received £38,000 this year through the Heritage Lottery Fund, but only 20 houses are currently eligible for lottery money because they are charitable trusts. Such historic houses are also

eligible for small local authority grants and funds from the European Union's Raphael programme. They also enjoy tax breaks, chiefly conditional exemption deferring the payment of inheritance tax if they are open to the public. It is too early to say how much fresh funds will flow to our country's

finest houses - or when that money might become available. A spokesman from English Heritage says that spending for next year has yet to be agreed. The Heritage Lottery Fund's con-

tribution is also unknown - but at

#### **MOVES**

IN VISCOUNT Linley is selling Ebury Lodge, in Belgravia, London SWI for £3.65 million through Savills. The lodge was designed by David Rosemont for the Vis-count, but he and his there, instead preferring a loft apartment in



■ THEY ARE playing musical houses on the Caribbean island of Mustique, famed as the former home of Princess Margaret David Bowie has sold his modern. Japanese-style house to Felix Denis from Denis Publishing, publisher of Kung-fu and computer



Caroline Charles

■ DRESS designer Caroline Charles is selling her Faccombe, Hampshire, cottage for £275,000 through Knight

THE former London home of Christina Onassis is for sale at £925,000 Foxtons. The through Mayfair flat was her private London home until her death in 1988.



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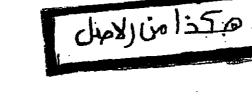
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ETE DIUMAND TWEE The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, is Tom Whitelaw, of Bearsden in Scotland





## The house of Bond's villain





Erno Goldfinger, left, whose ideas enraged Ian Fleming

leafy Sunningdale. Surrey, can claim to have been designed by a Goliath of crime. but Teesdale wins the accolade. Its architect, the modernist Erno Goldfinger, so enraged Ian Fleming that he named one of his best-known villains after him — "Mr Bond...if Mr Goldfinger wished to crush you, he would only have to turn over in his

The cause of their quarrel lay in Goldfinger's plans to rip down a row of Victorian houses overlooku stead Heath and build flatroofed council houses. This was the late 1930s. Later, Goldfinger became notorious as his tower blocks and Elephant and Castle offices came to symbolise all that was despised about Sixties

brutalism. Now Goldfinger is back in vogue, and his house in Willow Road has been acquired by the National Trust as a prime example of early Modernism. Teesdale, built in 1967. is set back from a tree-lined road south of Ascot, where houses stand in spacious grounds secluded by shrubs or metal gates that bar even a passing glimpse. What was once stockbroker Tudor is now

sheikh alley. Teesdale has one of the best positions of all, a hilltop site approached by a helter-skelter drive, winding steeply up through woodland. It looks as natural as can be, but Goldfinger worked hard on

the drive and the hilltop

ventures into the modern world of Erno Goldfinger's

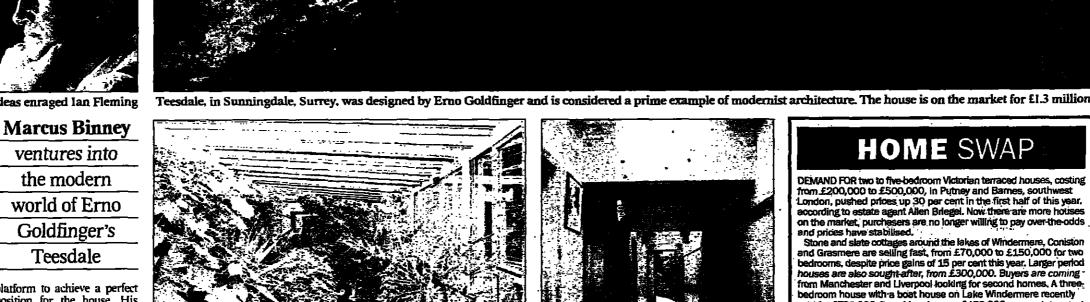
platform to achieve a perfect position for the house. His client, Jack Perry, was hailed as a pioneer of Anglo-Chinese trade in a handsome obitua in The Times on January 2 this year. Like many people from the East End of London, Perry went into the rag trade, but his life took a new direction when he struck up links with the Chinese at a Moscow conference in 1952.

Over the next 40 years, he made more than 70 visits to China, and eventually became a visiting professor in Beijing. spending long periods lecturing Chinese students.

With a determined client and architect, the house had a difficult gestation and went through several designs. But Goldfinger was proud of it in the end and his widow thought it was his best house.

Like early Mies van der Rohe houses, the composition is long, rectangular and low, with scarcely a window on the entrance side. The difference is that the composition is gently askew, like a railway train going round a bend.

There is an American-style carport and stylishly zigzag-





The lushly-planted conservatory leads to the bedrooms. The cedar-lined walls give the house a Japanese feel

ging steps which lead up to the glass front door. The house appears to be made entirely from wood but it has a brick frame. It uses the post-andbeam construction beloved of modernists for its simplicity.

A row of cruciform wooden columns along the garden front support "glu-lam" beams (glued and laminated) which rest on a solid wall at the other end. The outside is faced with cedar and the inside with cedar vencer. The roof is made of 2in timbers, tongued and grooved and covered with proprietary roofing.

The architect James Dunwho worked with Goldfinger, says: "His houses are built to a system of proportions. Every measure-ment was a multiple of II

in a large penthouse

#### HOUSE OF THE WEEK

inches, here giving an 8ft 3in distance between columns." The main part of the house is open-plan, with just a few steps up to the dining area. "All his houses have these slight changes of level. It was a feature he took from the Viennese architect Adolf Loos," Mr Dunnett says.

Modernists like their clients to enjoy perfect communion with nature. Goldfinger achieves this with huge floorto-ceiling windows which slide back into the walls, turning living and dining areas into a virtual open-air terrace. Goldfinger chose his fittings well. The huge aluminium picture windows glide with ease after an initial pull, and the tilt-out top windows, operated by a chain mechanism. work as easily as car windows. Even a screen which Rose Marlin, the present owner, said she had not moved since introducing a grand piano, glided effortlessly when pulled it free of a concealed

magnetic strip. Goldfinger oriented the house exactly to the west to provide stunning hilltop views of the sunset — you look out, Cezanne-style, through the tops of trees, with magnificent

THE AREA around Wind-

lesham, on the Berkshire bor-

der of the Surrey stockbroker belt, is about 20 miles south-

west of central London. With

its string of palatial homes, it

has long been fashionable

with weathly London émigrès and foreign buyers looking

They are attracted by the

rustic charm of the area, with

its leafy, affluent villages of

Sunningdale. Ascot. Chob-ham and Virginia Water, by

its golf courses, such as Went-

worth, by its schools, and by

Trains to Waterloo from

Ascot take 50 minutes; the M3

is on the doorstep, the M25 is

a ten-minute drive away; it is

20 minutes to Heathrow and

Although you can buy 2

small modern semi-detached

house around Windlesham or

Sunningdale for less than

£120,000, the majority of

homes cost a great deal more.

Prices are among the highest

in the Home Counties. They

rose 15 per cent and more in

the first six months of this

40 minutes to Gatwick.

for family homes.

its accessibility.

pines and copper beeches providing glorious autumn colour. Underfloor heating and convectors keep the house pleasantly warm. The bills are about £300 a quarter and £700 in midwinter," Mrs Mar-

he four bedrooms are in a separate block, approached through lushly planted conservatory. "Most conservatories are tucked away in extensions, but here you're walking through it all the time," Mrs Marlin says. The bedrooms open off a top-lit corridor lined with cupboards, wooden of course, which give a distinctly Japanese feel. Goldfinger told me how he had watched the Japanese pavilion going up at the 1925 Art Deco Exhibition, each piece of wood being carefully

paper," Mr Dunnett says. The first bathroom serves two bedrooms, but has two basins, so a child need not feel dislodged if guests come to stay. The lavatory is in its own top-lit cubicle of sentry-box proportions. Just like the lavatory on a private jet," says Mrs Marlin who is never

unwrapped from crinkly

short of a good selling line. The master bedroom is the one place where the previous

owners rebelled against the all-pervasive wood in favour of painted walls. In moving partitions they also exposed a column containing Goldfinger's internal rainwater pipes - he didn't want gutters interrupting the clean lines of his exterior.

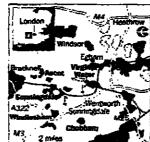
The criticism can be made that this is a single-aspect house with all the main windows on one side, denying the pleasure of morning sun. But it also gives privacy as the land falls away sharply to the west. For those with dogs, there are four acres of fenced grounds down the hillside with three levels of paths. On top of the bedroom block, adding a Cubist touch, is a freestanding watertank

which looks like a recipe for frozen pipes but, says Mrs Marlin, we've never had a problem even in the coldest weather. It's a box in a box with a cavity in between." Teesdale is a modern clas-

sic, built for people who want to be at one with nature. As I drove away at dusk, a large roe deer skipped past. Agent: Kate Floyd at Foxtons (0171-616 7003).

In 007's footsteps, pages 24-25





year, fuelled by a shortage of supply. The average cost of a three-bedroom detached character cottage in Sunningdale is £250.000; about £275,000 for a new four-bedroom executive detached house; and £670,000 for a five-bedroom period house, according to a recent report on house prices from Hamptons International.

Demand for two-up-twodown Victorian terraced village houses, costing from £120,000 to £150,000 in Windlesham often exceeds supply. Halifax Property

Services says the market for properties under £300,000 has cooled, however, because of purchasers' worries about rising interest rates.

The smartest address in Westwood Road will set you back at least £2 million for a new five-bedroom five-bathroom house in half an acre. Windlesham's mansions (most owned by oil-rich Arab sheikhs) are still sought after by cash buyers, despite price rises of up to 30 per cent this year, says estate agent Knight Frank.

Large country houses with land are rare - move closer to Guildford if you want to buy one of these. New houses dominate the top end of the market. Expect to pay anything from £500,000 to more than El million for a modest five-bedroom house on half an acre, near Ascot. A six to eight-bedroom 1930s house with a pool, tennis court and an acre or two will cost £2 million or more - if you can

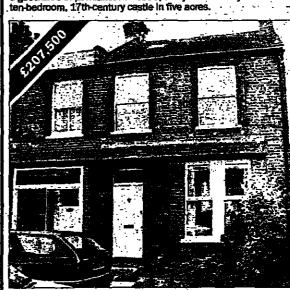
find one for sale. CHERYL TAYLOR

#### **HOME** SWAP

DEMAND FOR two to five-bedroom Victorian terraced houses, costing London, pushed prices up 30 per cent in the first half of this year. according to estate agent Allen Briegel. Now there are more houses on the market, purchasers are no longer willing to pay over-the-odds and prices have stabilised.

Stone and state cottages around the lakes of Windermere, Coniston and Grasmere are selling fast, from £70,000 to £150,000 for two bedrooms, despite price gains of 15 per cent this year. Larger period houses are also sought-after, from £300,000. Buyers are coming from Manchester and Liverpool looking for second homes. A threesold for £760,000. Its guide price was £450,000, says estate agent

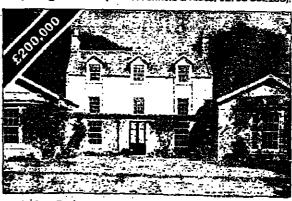
You still get a lot of house for your money is northeast Scotland Savills. Country houses within commuting distance of Aberdeen cost from £150,000 to £200,000 for up to five bedrooms. Georgian houses in Royal Decaide fetch from £550,000 for six bedrooms and a good area of parkland. For £650,000 you could buy a restored



This restored two-bedroom end-of-terrace Victorian house with a south-facing rear garden in The Retreat, a secluded Barnes backwater on the outskirts of "Little Chelsea", southwest London, will set you



Offers over £200,000 are being invited for Holywell House, a detached stonebuilt five-bedroom period house, in beautiful terraced gardens, on the edge of Helton village, overlooking the Lake District National Park. It is currently run as a country bed & breakfast and has parking for six cars (Penrith Farmers & Kidds, 01768 862135).



North of the Border, Drumbleir Lodge, a Grade S listed 18th-century, the bedroom country house in 3.2 acres of wooded grounds, at Forgue, by Hundley, Aberdeenshire, can be had for a similar amount, it is approached by a drive and a gateway with stone pillars and comes with stone outbuildings (Savills, 01356 622187).



Sir Michael Hopkins. CBE. lives with his wife Patricia, in a selfdesigned steel and glassconstructed building in Hampstead, north London (right). The property. built in 1976, cost £30.000 for the site, and a further £20,000 to build. It can only be reached by a drawbridge and from the outside appears to be one storey high, although it is in fact two.

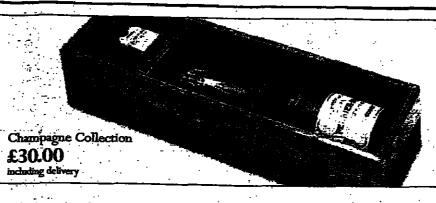




above the offices he designed, on the banks of the River Thames in Battersea, southwest London (left). Constructed from steel and glass, the penthouse is dominated by its wide open spaces and the stunning panoramic views stretching as far as Canary Wharf. Lord Rogers of

Riverside lives with his wife Ruth, co-founder of the River Café, in a large house in Chelsea, west London (right). While the exterior is typically early Victorian, the interior is modernist. Two floors of two houses have been knocked into one, and walls have been removed to create a vast space of two storeys dominated by stainless steel.





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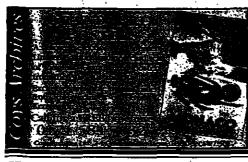
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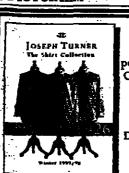
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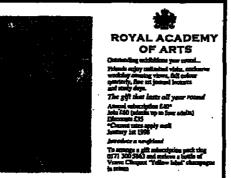
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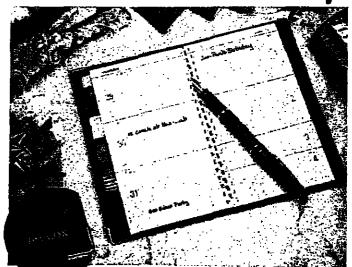
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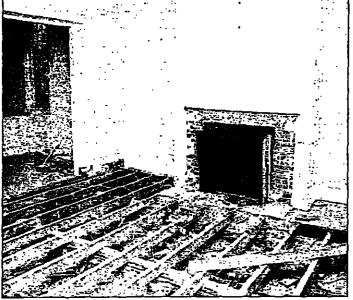
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## Staircases to thieves' heaven

Burglars aren't just stealing your possessions, they are taking most of the house as well. Tom Rowland reports

uying second-hand clay tiles to help an extension to blend in, or old floorboards to give the freshly renovated dining room that lived-in feel may seem an innocent enough activity. But, according to building conservationalists, it is unwittingly helping to fuel a crimewave. The theft of parts of old houses has reached epidemic proportions, as a Hertfordshire property developer found to his cost recently. Thieves took floors, panelling and roof tiles from his latest purchase and left the £1 million house little more than an empty shell. Any fine old building left empty for more than a few weeks risks a similar fate.

The problem is the ready market in almost any of the components of a good house," Matthew Slocombe, caseworker at the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings (SPAB), explains. So concerned has SPAB become that it now has a policy to discourage owners from re-using salvage materials in their buildings. It recommends they go for new, goodquality, handmade materials.

At Burton Park, near Petworth, Sussex, an entire Grade I listed staircase was stolen during a renovation. The magnificent Regency staircase - valued at £30,000 disappeared one night. The lead fixings had been burnt out from the stone, the developer Mike Wilson says. The staircase did turn up in a lock-up garage in Portsmouth, but will cost £6,000 to repair and

It is not only expensive staircases that go missing. In Wandsworth, south London, the 18th-century Wandsworth House has been progressively stripped of its architectural treasures over the past few months, says John Neale, caseworker for the Georgian Group. The redundant Georgian hospi-



THE PRICE OF PERIOD

#### Take a tip from the burglars

keep your home safe from being burgled when you're away? Advice can come from many quarters - Neighbour-Watch schemes or locals who've had something stolen from their own homes - but rarely does it come directly from the horse's mouth: the thieves

themselves.

That's why Norwich Union teamed up with Kent Police to produce a video, Beat The Burglar. Available through your local crime prevention officer, it features three convicted house breakers - Gary, Patrick and Paul - speaking about how they plied their trade.

As they explain, most break-ins are carried out by opportunists, keeping an eye out for the clues that can indicate a house is

Making a house look as though it is occupied will put off most of these thieves. Timer switches that turn on lights in different parts of the building at night can be an effective deterrent, as can more obvious measures, such as cancelling papers

and keeping a dog.

Drawing the curtains is still popular with many people, but during daylight hours it is an obvious giveaway. Modern security systems can be programmed to draw curtains and

The best protection for any house is a burglar alarm, but be warned: burgiars are able to tell the difference between a good quality system and a cheap DIY pack. The latter tend to be unreliable and are frequently left turned off after a few embarrassing false alarms.

The best advice, however, is perhaps the most obvious: Patrick extolls the deterrent value of double glazing, while Paul points out that anyone can find a door key under a mat or on the top of a door frame. It may sound cynical, but you've succeeded if the housebreaker moves to the next street to take his chances.

#### A Suffolk village to rob for

reat Glemham, in Suffolk. is the safest village in England. That is the extravagant boast backed by Suffolk Police statistics. They show it to be a crime-free zone, with not so much as an improperly parked car reported in the year 1996-97.

The claim stands up nationally. Great Glemham has the lowest crime rate in Suffolk, which in turn has the lowest crime rate of any county. Other areas may have low figures, but an unblemished record is something to be proud of. At least, it was until a few weeks ago, when the community post office was burgled. For the past three years this was operated part-time from the village hall after the closure of the picturesque village shop, now a private house.

Nowhere is safe from the bur-glars, it seems, and with the peak Christmas season for house robberies about to start, 2!1 residents of the sleepy village between Aldeburgh and Saxmundham would be as well advised as the rest of us to take precautions.

Great Glemham also illustrates that there can be a downside to living somewhere safe, it can be awfully quiet. A trip to the pub. The Crown, to find out what the locals think about this tarnished reputation proves a failure. On the door is a notice saying that it has closed down and the new owners do not intend to re-open until after the new year. Still, the lack of rowdiness around closing time will help to minimise opportunistic

With its period cottages and gentle lanes, Great Glemham represents for many a rural idyll. The village has 93 houses, ranging from £35,000 cottages to £350,000

For sale is Stone House, a fourbedroom, timber-frame cottage with a flint Georgian front. It would appeal to both families and those looking for a weekend cottage close to transport links since the Al2 is two miles away. The asking price is £325,000, a figure likely to be achieved without difficulty, according to the agent Jonathan Penn of Strutt & Parker. The figure represents a 25 per cent rise over the past five years.

That sort of price increase might mean that small villages such as Great Glemham become honeypots for thieves, often the safer they are, the more thieves are attracted to try their hand.

TOM ROWLAND

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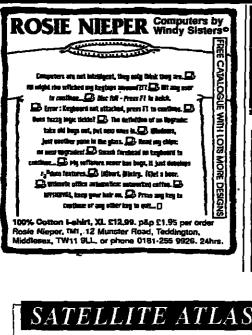
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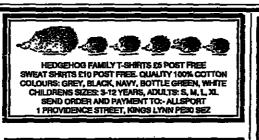
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much of the interior is also under

made tiles are vulnerable because there is a ready market for them and they are difficult to trace," Mr

In many cases local authority

planners specify that old materials should be used as a condition of

granting planning permission and owners have little choice other than

Garden statues and ums remain

favourite among thieves, al-

though it is now easier to protect them with solid fastenings, which do not damage the fabric and

electronic alarms linked to the

house security system. Victorian lampposts and old telephone boxes

are among the latest items to be

targeted, with old gas lamps now

fetching up to £450.

Neale says.

"Slates, stone tiles and hand-

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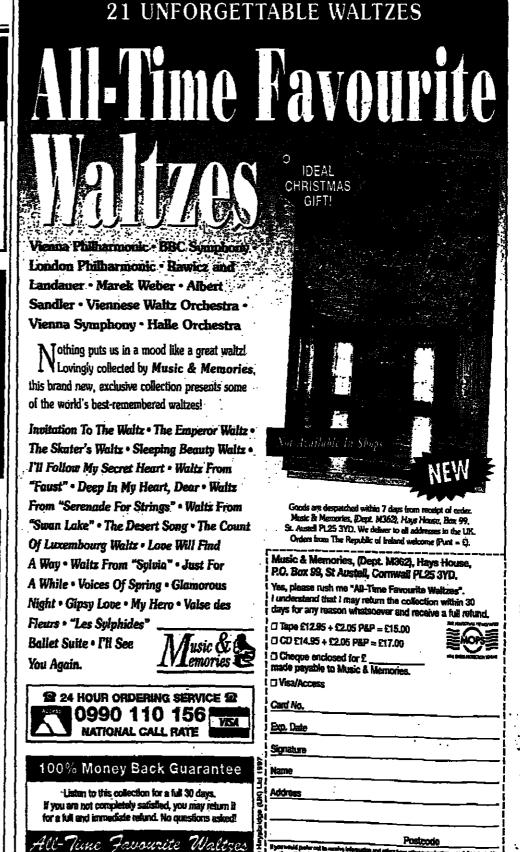
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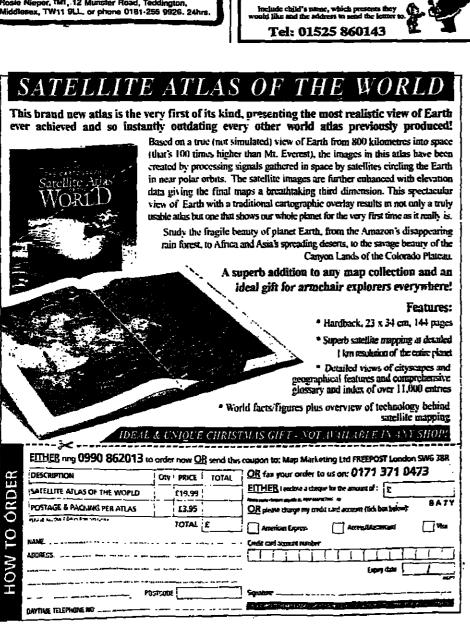
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## Sixties wonder on shaky ground

A mix of formal planting and modern sculpture makes the Gibberd garden worth saving, writes Stephen Anderton

arsh Lane, the garden of the late Sir Frederick Gibberd, at Harlow, Essex, has a wonderful collection of fine architectural ornament and modern sculpture. But its future hangs by a perilously thin thread, with a bid to

the Heritage Lottery Fund pending.
Often when you see a picture of Marsh Lane in print, it shows a lonely architectural or sculptural detail in close-up. Why on earth do we never see the impression this garden really makes — the use of plants, the spaces, and the way they accommodate and work with the sculpture?

It is partly the fault of fashion in garden photography. Give a sym-metrical formal garden to garden photographers these days and they will turn in fabulous, moody shots, all taken on the diagonal, with the elements of the picture beautifully balanced.

But that is not the garden itself. It is the garden through someone else eyes — a reinterpretation. The classic formal shots never appear, because editors are afraid to use them in case the image has already appeared in a dozen glossy gardening books.

ing books.

This architectural image is
Marsh Lane's problem. And yet it
is a wonderful garden, not just for its glamorous sculptures but for its horticulture, for its planting.

It is one of the few important designer gardens of the late 20th century. But unless it gets a lottery grant, to keep it going and open it to the public, the estate will eventually go on the market as a house (not a very special house) ripe for redevel-

The decline of all gardens is a furious descent, and not at all the peaceful, romantic fading away which sunshine and a few wild roses would let us believe. Gardens go quickly, but quietly, as one plant eats another for breakfast.

Marsh Lane is a lovely garden. A bit woolly around the edges, per-haps, and in need of some serious pruning, but full of fascination and charm. Sir Frederick Gibberd was the architect and master planner of Harlow New Town. He was also a talented landscape designer.



The fine lines of a terracotta pot contrast with a wild woodland area

garden design. It was his all-consuming hobby between 1956 and his death in 1984. Since then it has got by with what skills and labour Lady Gibberd has been able to muster. But she is concerned that the garden's horticultural elements are fading fast.

At Marsh Lane there exists the perfect opportunity to keep a great garden of a recent period going in l its detail, while it still exists. Whatever details have slipped away could be replaced by looking through Gibberd's drawings of the

But why bother to fund the preservation of a modern garden, you may ask? Well, for one thing, it is a garden of "garden rooms" and enclosed vistas, but free of the domineering plantsmanship of Sissinghurst or Hidcote. It is a fine example of a freer and more modern style. It would be an inspiration to the present generation of young gardeners.

Admittedly, the Sixties produced

some cheap and nasty work, but should we throw out everything that was well-made then too? Look at the variety of modern paving techniques at Marsh Lane, look at the novel juxtaposition of clipped and unclipped evergreens, like exotic grafted cacti or the back view of peacocks.

This garden needs saving from a fate worse than total loss - from being preserved as a mere sculpture park. The garden is registered Grade II in the English Heritage Register of Historic Parks and Gardens, which means it is recognised for its national importance. But to let the garden linger on, without the gardening intended to complement the sculpture, would be to give modern gardening a bad name. The gardening is every bit as important as the sculpture. They

The garden deserves to survive because of all the efforts of its trustees and those who have given money to the Gibberd Garden Appeal to save it. When Sir Frederick Gibberd died, he left the garden to Harlow District Council, for the recreation and education of the people of Harlow. But the will was contested and the estate became a debtor through litigation, d la Bleak House. The house and garden were

saved from sale on the open market by a generous and anonymous benefactor, who bought the property as a holding measure, and gave the Gibberd Garden Trust precious time to find the money to restore it as a public amenity.

That was in 1995. What will the

lottery now decide? Time and anonymous goodwill do not last

■ The Gibberd Garden, off Gilden Way, Harlow, is open every Sunday, 2-6pm, from Easter Sunday until the end of September (01279 442112).



Bust of Sir Frederick Gibberd by Gerda Rubinstein. The garden was his all-consuming passion



■ Give winter protection to tender perennials (Melianthus major. Salvia spp., Cosmos atrosanguineus, Dahlia merckii) with bracken, old fern fronds, or a ventilated cloche. Keeping the soil dry is often more significant than

■ Plant rhubarb in well-manured ground, and cover established plants intended for forcing with a rhubarb pot or light-proof bucket.

Complete the digging of vacant borders and vegetable plots on heavy or clay soils, and leave them rough for the frosts to break them down. On light or sandy soils. digging can be done throughout the winter and early spring, at

Lime, if required to correct soil acidity for vegetables, should be applied before digging and in the autumn, to bring the soil up to pH6.5 or pH7 (neutral). Lime applied in spring at the same tim as fertilisers or manures containing ammonia will allow the ammonia to escape as gas and go to waste. A rule of thumb for quantities is half a pound of ground limestone to a square yard on light sandy soils, extending to a pound and a half on heavy clay

Regularly collect and burn fallen rose leaves to reduce the spread of diseases such as rust and black spot next spring. Some infection will remain on the twigs and branches, but the chances of controlling the problem are better where reinfection is minimised.

Tie in long stems on vigorous climbers (ivy, Hydrangea petiolaris, Pileostegia viburnoides. Schizophragma *hydrangeoides*, and species of Parthenocissus) before winter winds can break them. Cut off loose or forward-pointing growth on any self-clinging climbers which seem reluctant to cling. This will reduce the effect of winter winds on the alreadyclinging roots or suckers, and allow them to consolidate their hold before the weight of new growth recommences next spring

STEPHEN ANDERTON

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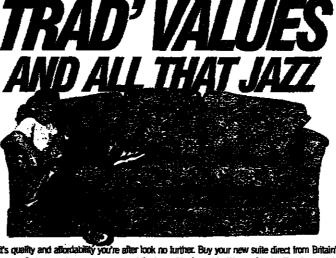
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## Better shred than dead

**Stephen Anderton** 

puts hedge clippings from last summer to good use with the

latest shredder

am tempted to put an advertisement in the local paper asking for other people to give me their levlandii hedge clippings. I am turning them into mulch, with the aid of a shredder.

Cupressocyparis leylandii, bless it. gets a terrible press. On good land with a high rainfall. leyland cypresses grow to massive propor-tions at a phenomenal speed — 4-5ft a vear is possible.

On the other hand, the competition of life in a mature hedge slows it down, and on poor, dry soil the effect is yet more marked. As a fastgrowing and short-term hedge. levlandii take some beating. They will even grow in exposed positions if planted small or supported carefully until they are anchored.

You can clip them only once a year. but do not expect an easy job. A top short on a young, hard-growing levlandii can be as fat as your thumb in six months, making cutting with mechanised trimmers heavy going or even impossible.

If it is cut two or three times over the season, it is much faster and easier to do, and the surfaces of the hedge look less chopped and more dense. Ultimately, it extends the life of the hedge — and most certainly that of the trimmer.

I have a couple of 12ft runs of leylandii hedge on the boundary of niv garden. On this poor, dry soil it makes only a couple of feet of growth a year at the top, and only a foot or so of growth sideways.

But that is fine by me. I can cut the little-linger-thick top shoots with secateurs once in late summer, even doing the sides with secateurs, taking the longest droopy shoots hard back by a foot or more, and nipping a few inches off the shorter ones.

This produces a less clipped effect. and it merges into the adjacent evergreen shrubberies. Next year I might do away with the hedge's flat top altogether, and let it become a long link in the shrubbery.

But what to do with all those

prunings? (Prunings, they certainly are, and not clippings. They are woody.) I thought I would try shredding them to make a mulch for new plantings around the garden, to conserve the moisture in the soil.

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Waste not, want not: astute recycling goes a long way, as mulch, made from readily available clippings, belps to preserve moisture in the soil

Shredders were always tricky things. Traditionally they jammed. They screamed and tore and whined and swore as they sliced away at your

There were, and still are, semicommercial shredders powered by their own petrol engine, or working off a mini-tractor. The best work on the principle of the wood passing through a flail in a drum, and they happily reduce thick twigs to little pieces. Fatter pieces require a chipper mechanism with a blade, and neighbours might mistake the sound for an

Bigger commercial machines are designed for the tricky problem of shredding otherwise indestructible cemetery wreaths. You can throw a brick into these just to see if they are working properly. They work all right, and sound like a Sherman tank at top speed.

I have been using the new Quiet Shredder from Atco, priced at about

relatively few revolutions per minute. dramatically reducing the noise.

it has a rotating hook-toothed drum, past which all the twigs are slowly pulled, crushing them against an opposing block. The noise level a cheery, productive rumble as it fills its clip-on swag bag with chips - is remarkably low.

This is not the sort of noise to trouble a neighbour, and you could use it without embarrassment at the weekend, or even indoors. The shredder even manages to crack the wood across the grain into little chunks.

That might be what you would

expect with dead twigs, but it still worked perfectly well on sappy new leyland twigs.

By avoiding feeding it anything

fatter than recommended (the mouth of the machine itself limits the size of wood you can put in). I had no jamming problems. Even the finer £350. Unlike the other amateur scrapings-up and bits of foliage were electric shredders, it operates on all pulled through the machine

satisfactorily, although they were a little on the thin side for the machine to chop small.

The hedge prunings were soon transformed into a heap of mulch used to dress the soil around new shrubs. I could have stored it in a heap and allowed it to begin decom-posing, but it was doing no harm around the shrubs, and it certainly made watering easier. Instead of the soil becoming caked and waterrepellent, the soil under the chips continued to soak up a canful every time. I only wish I had had the machine last year when some free-standing leylands were about to engulf the garden.

No domestic shredder is happy chewing on claggy, soft, wet stuff, so I never put anything with a lot of wet leaves, either broad-leaved or coniferous, through it.

But then, no one chooses to cut a hedge after a downpour, so the prunings can go straight into a shredder. That's one less pile of waste going unnecessarily to landfill.



Atco Quiet Shredder in action

#### GARDEN ANSWERS



STEPHEN ANDERTON replies to readers' letters

I have a plant in my of the extraordinary trances and interioristic states. garden grown from seed taken from Crete three years ago. It is now (2ft high and spreading sideways. It has large glaucous leaves and greenyyellow tubular flowers, but I have no clue what it might be. Any ideas? — M. Walicki, Benfleet, Essex.

I see from your sample that this is a species of tobacco. Nicotiana glauca, a tender shrub from South America. It is naturalised in the Canary Islands, and would probably do well anywhere with a Mediterranean climate. I have even seen it growing on a south wall in north Norfolk this year, but in Britain it is at risk outdoors. A cool conservatory would suit it better in the long run. Enjoy it while you can, and protect it in winter. That succulent-looking greeny-grey leaf is certainly appealing, and if fed and watered hard, the leaves will be the size of your hand. In hotter, leaner conditions they can be less than half that size.

At about this time of year, our lawn spontaneously exhibits a succession of puffballs. It is obviously a good environ-ment for these fungi, and I would like to cultivate the large, classical, red-capped toadstool. Is this practical. how do I start, and is there a specialist cultivator? --M. Scott, Shrewsbury.

A This is a touch of adventurous gardening and I wish you luck. Amanita muscaria is an attractive although potentially poisonous organism. Read Roger Phillips's book Toadstools for a description

by this fungus in the Lapps and their reindeer. Your problem is that the conditions that suit a puffball do not necesarily suit an Amanita. Fungi vary enormously in their needs. Amanita is a woodland fungus, and makes cosy, mycorrhizal associations with birch and pine trees. It also likes the fibrous, open-textured soil surface found under those trees. I know of no suppliers of spawn of non-culinary fungi, so your best bet will be to find a ripe Amanita and break it up under any trees you might have on the lawn, preferably birch or pine. A handful of soil from the growing site might be helpful too, for spores and

You recently advised that a beech tree should be pruned in late autumn. But both beech trees and hedges should be pruned in early July, according to my book. Please darify. — W.L. Astle, Bramhall, Cheshire.

Beeches do not like heavy pruning. If they must have it, then late autumn is a good time, when the leaves are off and the sap is down. It is trimming (cutting back twigs and thin branches by clipping a hedge, or the formative pruning of young trees) not major pruning, to which your book refers. This should indeed be done in summer.

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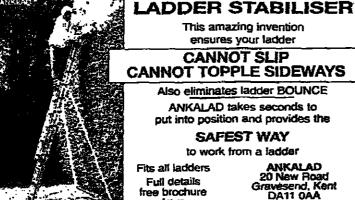
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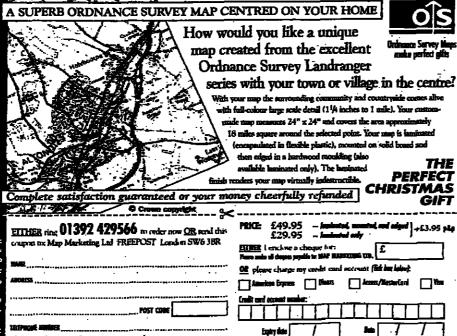
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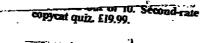
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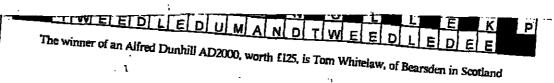




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ME AND MY GARDEN: EARL OF SNOWDON

would be hard to imagine most of this century's iconmakers dressed in homelaurel-leaf costumes and playing Peter Pan. It is not so hard in the case of the Puckish Earl of Snowdon. When he was six years old he designed and made a vest of laurel leaves and was thrust into a harness to take part in the family

"It was wildly uncomfortable. My stepmother was rather a good actress, but no good at physics: I was supposed to fly from the top of a chest of drawers on one side of the stage to the top of a tallboy on the other on a pulley. Well, I didn't. I was left dangling at the centre of the stage. That had a profound influence on me. I am a manic

His first pulley encounter ended when his father, standing in the wings, rescued the young Antony Armstrong-Jones, as he then was, with the help of the fishing rod he happened to be carrying.

Lord Snowdon's garden in Sussex has a pulley which propels guests and family at 40mph over a 100-yard course. His wife. Lucy. suffered the same fate as him when she had a go on the contraption for the first time. "She was stuck for ages, nearly 30ft up." he says.

Everything is take and theatre and jokey — everything including the gardens. Like my cranes feet table. Some gardens take themselves too seriously," he says.

Two cranes' legs have been used to make the legs of a small garden table in his London garden. "And that head of David," Lord Snowdon says, nodding towards the garden from his desk, "is a concrete cast with buckets of yoghurt thrown over it to age it. That is the David as opposed to my David," he says in case I have mistaken the bust for that of his son by Princess Marg-

In the Sussex garden that he has made from nothing over the past 25 years, theatre and trickery, surprises and japes dot the sloping site. A double row of upturned roofridge tiles leaping from the house pour a trickle of water into a garden

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**ACCESSORIES** 

pond. It was inspired by William Kent's rill at Rousham in Oxfordshire; a gutter posing as an elegant water feature.

"It is where Jacques Tati meets

the Villa D'Este," he says.
In a cool, secluded garden room is a rectangular pool, and a pavilion topped by an airy cupola and bell — "Complete Bastard" as Lord Snowdon puts it when quizzed about the style of the building. It is a bit Brighton Pavilion, a trifle Taj Mahal, a smattering Victorian and a touch post-Modern. It is also utter trickery: a façade, bar one small room reached by double doors which open on to a pair of naked fibre-glass mannequins sitting in relaxed positions enjoying each other's company. The bell is a twodimensional fake with a handle from an old chest of drawers.

There is a Madonna and wholly holey Holy Child - the space for the Infant is there in the form of a hollow shape in Mary's arms. This apparently ancient, moss-covered Italian statue is a fibre-glass fake from a film set. A tall. early Victorian pot mounted on a pillar cascades ivy: plastic ivy, taken from a photographic graveyard shoot he did in New York for Hamlet, with

A tiny garden house with fireplace and minstrels gallery is, unusually, real: a playhouse he designed for his daughter. Frances, from an old tool shed.

Lord Snowdon's energy for new projects and for making theatrical beauty out of nothing is the heritage partly derived from his mother. Anne, Countess of Rosse, who used to garden wearing her beloved diamond stars (which would drop off and have to be searched for), and his theatredesigner uncle, Oliver Messel, whose influence is profound.

best taste of anyone I know," Lord Snowdon says. She used to buy clothes from C & A and make something wonderful of them."

He shows me some pictures of regularly stayed with Messel in the Yorkshire, he and his sister had



Lord Snowdon in the garden of his home in London: "Everything is fake and theatre and jokey — including the gardens . . . Some gardens take themselves too seriously

eyes to create a weeping face.

The business of gardening as

"I just was never that interested in

er, Christopher Masson, at his

When he lived in Wales and

Sussex garden.

close to the sea but you couldn't see it; you had to go down a little path and then there was the surprise of the sea. Surprise is so important in a garden. The similarities between the ver-

dant, cool jungle Messel created around his house and that around Lord Snowdon's London house are striking, down to a wall-mounted water feature of a mask set in an oval niche spouting water into a semicircular pool below. He found the mask in the King's Road, Chelsea, and drilled out the

"My mother always said she hated good taste but she had the

the house in Barbados, where he

1960s and 1970s. "His house was small plots but grew only vegetables: "It was the war, and we grew things to eat then. It was frightfully dull. I never planted any flowers or

So speaks the man whose grandparents, Leonard and Maude Messel, both botanists, created one of Britain's most famous garden, Nymans in Sussex. "I'm not mad about the garden at Nymans. It has no water. I love Stourhead and the view across the lake."

ater is so important in a garden, Lord Snowdon says. "So is lighting in a garden. You opposed to designing gardens holds no magic for Lord Snowdon. should never see the source of light. In London I have made six or seven snoods out of big, old Ovaltine tins gardening," he says, adding that he employs a New Zealander garden-

which direct the light up."

Even as a child, wild, hard landscaping rather than plants caught his imagination. In his stepmother's Yorkshire garden he made a large tree-house in an oak

out of old bits of wood and anything else he could find, and a series of underground dens.

The only planting he mentions is The Indian Rope Trick": a morning glory plant that curls its way up a rope of about 5ft long with no visible means of support. Planting proper in his Sussex garden is, as says, done by his gardener.

Lord Snowdon's latest project is to add copper leaves to a couple of pots at the front of the London house. The leaves are a Snowdon signature. He cuts them from a sheet of copper and then stamps in the veins with a blunt chisel and bends them by hand to give them life. They flutter, almost like flames, from the top of the fairy-tale curved-wall gazebo he has built -Lucy's room" - around a vast, old lime tree the planners refused to allow him to cut down. The leaves spout from the arms of the cupola

on the Complete Bastard pavilion. "And I've improved this garage

by putting wobbly balls at each end and then adding the moulding. which I made from VPI... pause..."Do I mean that or is that something else?" he asks with a big

grin. "Maybe it's MFI."
Using his camera as a notebook. Lord Snowdon copies patterns and shapes that he sees and transfers them into his garden. Sometime he copies whole structures, such as a covered pavilion with wooden steps down into his lake in the country which he first saw in a floating market in Bangkok. Nearby there is a collection of ceramic pillars he happened to find behind his garage in London: he calls them the "Gossip Columns".

Would you like to see a picture of me with Glenn Close?" Another big grin. A scrapbook is opened. Lord Snowdon is portrayed leaning against a street sign: Glen Close. Puck rules, OK.





· A weeping-face water feature

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**HOW SUITABLE IS THAT DOGGIE IN THE WINDOW?** 

mer - pusy, active and good-natured, weighing about 31kg. Needs fertailed; loves the company of dogs. Short coat needs little

Long white cost, hairy feet and a mind of its own. Needs sowner with time to spend on grooming and training, but a hoyed is a pleasure. Weighs about 23kg.

g guide dog or sniffer dog and a first-class family dog. Obesity can be a blem as it will eat almost anything. Weighs about 30kg.

Afghan — An elegant, glamorous dog that can look wonderful if time is spent grooming its cost. Aloof, even stand-offish with strangers, but bred to chase at high speed, so even at 30kg can cover 100 yards in ten seconds.

6 German Shepherd — Guard dog par excellence, it has a mind of its own, so needs a firm owner, respected by the dog. Highly intelligent and can be taught to do almost anything, Big, at around 36kg, with plenty of energy.

(B) Chitustius — Smallest breed in the world, weighing about 2kg. Easy to pick up, but not a dog for children — dropping from a child's arms is the equivalent of our falling from a first-floor window. Good house dog that will bark to tell you when anyone's about. Short-haired ones need no more than a polish with a duster, but the long haked variety takes more time.

(1) Great Dane (bigger varieties can weigh 90kg). A short-haired giant, which requires minimum of grooming. Too big for most cars or laps, but tall enough to look down on other dogs and to treat them with tolerant disinterest. Usually good with children, but an accidental bump will knock a toddler to

## Puppy love: a good breed guide

unhappy dog owner say: We wouldn't have choknown how much trouble they were or "we felt so sorry for him in the pet shop. Pet-owning is like marriage — you may have years of leisure in which to repent of your impulses - and it pays enormous dividends if you consider carefully which breed to acquire.

Choosing the right animal is no simple matter. The Kennel Club recognises more than 160 breeds of dogs - fall shapes, sizes and colours, long-haired, short-haired and almost hairless, with widely varying temperaments and activity levels. One family's perfect pet can be totally unsuitable for someone else - although nearly 7 million dogs are kept in 5.4 million households, so it looks as though most people do make the right

There are scores of reasons for spending time choosing your first. or next, puppy. It is important to match owner and dog: energetic breeds need energetic owners, longhaired ones need regular grooming or pet parlour visits, and working dogs need to work.

Size is also crucial. Giant breeds such as mastiffs, Irish wolfhounds. Pyrenean mountain dogs and St Bernards, weighing between 851b and 160lb, take a lot of hearthrug and car space - and long-haired giants have acres of coat to groom. But they take life at a pedestrian

and wait for something to happen. Big dogs also cost more to feed and have a shorter lifespan than their smaller cousins - a St Bernard is old at ten, whereas many Cairn terriers are going strong at 16. These giants are too big to be a family dog, but they do not need a country estate, and can have a good life in a large-roomed flat or town house with adult owners who enjoy long, leisurely

If you want to go one size down (those between 45 and 85lb), there

Big dogs

cost more

to feed

and have

shorter

lifespans

are plenty of breeds to choose from, including most of the gundogs. The name "gundog" is actually an historic classification — a dozen generations of breeding for show or pet pur-poses has made many "gundogs" terrified of the sound of a 12-bore. Real gun-loving gundogs, such as a spaniel, retriever, labrador, setter or pointer, need to spend their days work-

ing and retrieving game, so they are only worth adding to your family if you have time to work them hard on a farm or in a park. It you are considering one of these breeds, it is worth thinking about their coat length. Some retrievers have a double coat and if they live in a centrally-heated house they shed hair all year round and How many of the 160 breeds of dog at the Kennel Club show today at Earls Court would make good pets?

James Allcock sorts the pooches from the pedigrees

need thorough, regular grooming. Cocker spaniels long, hairy ears need careful brushing every day so they stay "lightweight" and do not block their ear canals. Most of the Spitz breeds such as sarnoyeds, keeshounds, elkhounds and chows also fall into this category. They
have a dense "stand off"

coat, their hairs are at right angles to the skin and their tails curl back over the spine. They are also paragons of virtue: for the past 30 years, chow breeders have concentrated on producing amenable dogs, and have succeeded.

Many breeds in the Kennel Club's "working group" — collies, sheepdogs, German shep-herds, boxes rottwellers - are also in this weight

range, but they need a purpose in life: guarding a flock, herding animals or simply pleasing their owner by following his or her A working sheepdog (the One

Man and his Dog type) will go mad if confined to a suburban house for 22 hours a day, as will

slight hounds such as greyhounds, always comply. Whippets weigh around 25lb and borzois, afghans and salukis, which hunt by sight and gallop at high speeds over short distances even a slothful greyhound will take little more than 30 seconds to travel 500 yards. But these few minutes of high-velocity activity are usually

ogs between 151b and 45lb are easily portable and include most of the terriers except Airedales and Yorkies, which enjoy digging holes, chasing balls and investigating, and so are excellent pets for a family with active children. They also include Staffordshire bull terriers, which have been the dogs in my life for the past 20 years. They are hard work to keep, because they're so busy, but the short coat

followed by a few hours of relax-

ation, convenient for owners with

limited spare time.

needs little grooming. Corgis, both Pembroke and Cardigan, also fit this size category. Their ancestors were cattle dogs which encouraged cows to move on by nipping their legs - a propensity not totally obliterated in some strains; although the breed standard requires corgis to be

foutgoing and friendly", they don't

have all the virtues of the larger sight hounds such as greyhounds. They are seen as slightly shy dogs because they often seem to tremble. but this is a sign that they are ready to go, rather than un-

happy or afraid. They're short haired and nonaggressive, so make an excellent pet for a urban long-haired family. The real tinies, below

15lb, may be too fragile

companions for those of

for family life with rummaggots bustious children. However, because they are if not inexpensive to feed, are easily picked up and kept tidy need equally little exercise, they make excellent

advancing years. I would recommend a short-haired breed such as a smooth chihuahua, pug, miniature pinscher or Italian greyhound, although they must all be groomed: too many Pekes, Poms and similar long-haired tinies get into a mess, and even maggot-infested if they are not kept clean and tidy.

Once the breed has been chosen,

question. My preference is for a bitch every time. They're gentler. usually smaller than their brothers and their maternal instinct extends to a kindliness and care for children. Males of every species are aggressive and their negative vir-

tues extend to fighting, wandering and cocking legs on the cabbages. Whichever sex is chosen, there's a lot in favour of neutering. It is vital to know as much as you can about a puppy's breeding. It is

worth visiting the home where it was born so that you can check the mother, and often the father, of the litter. It is nearly always the case Too many that the offspring of

nice to know parents will probably grow up with the same virtues. If tinies get mum and dad don't appeal, I would advise saying thanks but no thanks, and looking elsewhere. Watch carefully, too.

when you arrive. When a litter of pups trot out for your inspection (they're really having a good look at

you) there will be a boss pup who leads and a last in line that is shy and retiring. Take note. If you're extrovert and strong-minded, the lead pup will be an excellent choice. If you like a quiet life, the last one out might be best.

The final factor to consider is cost. You will pay between £100 and £350 for a healthy, quality, fullyregistered pedigree pup, and more if its owners believe it will have a show or breeding career. If buying for a pet, the puppy must have a perfect temperament; an unwanted white hair or slightly short ear flap

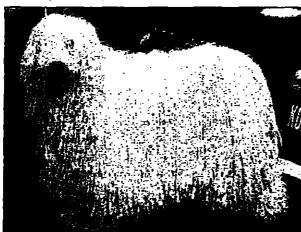
won't matter at all. Dogs, of course, also have to be fed. In 1996, dog owners spent £667 million on prepared pet food and E84 million on "treats", represen-ting a food bill of almost exactly £100 per dog per year.

et fees can be covered by pet health insurance costing £60 to £100 per year, but you will still have to pay for boosters, which cost about another £30. Kennelling during your holidays will cost between £4 and £7 a day and clipping, stripping or shampooing hairy dogs can cost another £100 in the year which all adds up to shelling out about £5 to £10 a week for many

Dog breeders rarely worry about what's said about them, but criticising their breed is another matter. So now I'll retire to my bunker hoping to avoid the slings and arrows fired because I've been disrespectful to one breed or failed to mention another.

• You can find out the pluses and minuses of more than 160 breeds from experts with no axe to grind (since they won't be trying to sell them to you) at the Kennel Club's Discover Dogs show.

## Fashions that last one shake of a shar-pei's tail



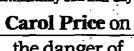
The komondor: victim of a permanently bad hair day

ould you know a bergamasco from a havanese? Do. you think a bracco italiano is (a) a liqueur, (b) a cheese or (c) a penalty box manoeuvre by Juventus? Wrong answers to any of the above show you might have a way to go in the world of fashionable dog ownership. For those are just some of the latest pedigree breeds to come to Britain, and will duly be displayed at today's Discover Dogs show at Earls Court, west London. With about 160 pedigree dog

breeds already in this country. highlighting the endless combinations of canine genes, one could ask do we need any more? Well, yes, it seems we do - as long as trends in novel dogs continue, and there are customers in the canine marketplace willing to pay a high price for them. There will always be people for whom dogs are status symbols," says Claire Horton-

Bussey, editor of Dogs Today.
They want to be able to walk down the street with some thing different on a lead and have everyone look at them." Dogs with impressive show-Winning histories also carry snob-appeal. Phil Buckley of the Kennel Club knows of wealthy people who'll collect expensive dogs like others might collect classic cars", and

cites one American who



the danger of succumbing to

the fads for exotic breeds

recently bought a top show bull terrier in this country for £35,000 "just as a pet". The more common pedigree pups in Britain can cost from £100 to £850 depending on

source and background. The rarer or trendier ones can cost more than El.000. If you wanted a truly different dog, they don't come more





Disney's 101 Dalmatians set a trend for the spotty dog

idiosyncratic than the good old British bulldog. According to the Kennel Club's external affairs executive, Brian Leonard, pups are going for up to £1,000 despite this breed's notorious health problems breathing difficulties and birth complications - due to its over-exaggerated anatomy.

Mr Leonard attributes the buildog's lasting appeal to its role as "the lovable, depend-able comedian of the canine world"—a sort of Les Dawson of a dog. If you wanted more of a Liam Gallagher on a lead, however, it could be some-thing like the komondor. This is an expensive Hungarian sheepdog with the potential for a permanently bad hair day. Its coat comprises intricate dinky tassels, like a highperformance mop, which must be expertly arranged and coif-fured. Described as "very noisy, temperamental and often aggressive", the komondor has fans who will insist there is no dog quite like it, and few

If you had between £2,000 and £3,000 to spare you might secure one of the limited dogue de Bordeaux pups available here. This is the fren mastiff which was endearingly portrayed alongside Tom Hanks in the film Turner & Hooch. But beware; not only is there that ferrywash of slobber to contend with, but the Kennel Club refuses to recognise the breed "mainly because of its past associations with dog

S o which are the other must-have dogs of the moment? Ms Horton-Bussey says: "Anything vague-ly wolf-like, such as the Siberian husky or Japanese akita. People seem to love the idea now of having this raw, wild kind of dog. They think

But the reality often isn't. Ian and Diana Sidwell, longtime owners of akitas in the Midlands, say they are continually having to tell potential buyers that a dog bred for



The British bulldog: "The lovable, dependable comedian of the canine world"

lead. They are strong-willed, require firm handling, and

hunting bears is not likely to make the most amenable-suburban pet "Akitas are wonderful, loyal and affectionate dogs," they

say, "but they are also born hunters. Their tendency to chase down any small animal and be dominant with other dogs means you might have to keep them constantly on a

can moult horrendously." Such considerations bring us to the most serious aspect of canine faddism; that when dogs are bought on a whim they can be discarded in the

same way. People thought shar-peis were wonderful when they first arrived here ADOPT ME



COSTELLO is an eight-

male cat who has been at the Godmanchester branch for more than a year. He is on well with other cats, but would be better suited to a home with an experienced owner with no other cats, dogs or young children. If you would like to adopt Costello, call Wood Green Animal Shelter (01480

some years ago, with their cute wrinkly folds of skin," Mr Leonard says. "Then they discovered the breed had eye, immune system and skin problems, and those little folds made them smell.

Everyone also wanted a dalmatian after the Disney film until they realised they had 70lb of muscle that would rip the place apart like a bored teenager unless they got miles and miles of exercise each

day."
Mr Leonard maintains that a central aim of Discover Dogs will be to tell people about the dogs they shouldn't buy as much as those they should. Not only are some more exotic breeds best left to specialists". he says, but when dogs fall victim to fading fashion, the only people left doing brisk business are res cue centres.

 Tickets for Discover Dogs are available from the Kennel Club Hotline (0171-518 1012) and the Earls Court box office (0171-373 5511).

#### A VET WRITES Should Humphrey the

Snow recommend from 10 Downing Street?

The medical bulletins about the Prime Ministerial cat have not been too precise, but the clinical details of the great have always been shrouded in mist. Winston Churchill suffered one or more severe strokes while PM. although few knew about this at the time. Anthony Eden and Harold Macmillan ended their careers surrounded by medical pronouncements which varied with the political needs of the hour. And did any one actually hear George V's wish to commit an illegal

sexual act upon Bognor?
Both "kidney failure" and 'incontinence" have been suggested as reasons to move Humphrey to live in south London. But these are two totally different conditions.

If Humphrey's kidneys are wearing out - and he has reached the age when his pinstriped namesake would be entering sheltered accommodation - then the cat will benefit from the move. Hopefully the house will have an enclosed garden and one person responsible for his wellbeing. His carer will know where he is, and what and when he's eating and drinking. As a No 10 cat he was everyone's cat but was his absence noticed if he went missing? Or was it assumed he was terrifying the ducks in St James's Park?

Wet patches could be territory marking - deliberately urinating to scent-mark his boundaries. Which is hardly senile incontinence. Cats do this when something has changed and there is a threat to a comfortable existence. If this is what has happened. then moving will add to the stress. Eleven-year-old cats can find it difficult to cope with

changed surroundings. Humphrey's relocation might be the best for him, or it might simply be convenient for others. Time will tell, but will we ever be told?

JAMES ALLCOCK

 Write to The Times Vet. Weekend, The Times, I Pennington Street, London E1 9XN, Advice is offered without legal responsibility.

The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, is Tom Whitelaw, of Bearsden in Scotland

#### 'I can turn the inside of our house into a replica of Stringfellows nightclub if I wish, but I may not change a window frame'

It's a dog's life, living in a listed building. Ask Ivy, the sheepdoglurcher cross who hit the headlines recently by refusing to live in the kennel her owners provided for her. It was no ordinary kennel. Attached to what is described as a "masterpiece" of a house. a converted abbey near Bristol, the kennel has been classified as Grade I. It cannot be altered for other uses.

This does not impress lvy. Despite being built of the most beautiful textured stone, the Tudor kennel holds no attraction for her. No doubt Lord St John of Fawsley will be down there, salivating over it; but Ivy pants only reluctantly. It's cold, it's draughty. Law forbids any

alteration so she prefers the kitchen. None of this surprises me. Anyone who has tried to do their best for animals will confirm that, by and large, they are an unappreciative lot. Horse and pony owners will tell you of the expense to which they have gone to provide a shelter in a field so that the horse can get out of the wind and rain. But come the first snowfall or blast of Arctic air, where will the horse be? Standing in the middle of

Homes that fail to make the grade the field, unprotected, rear end to the wind, ignoring everything the weather can throw at it. If you are looking for a to keep out draughts. pastime, take note as you drive round the countryside of how many times you see a

provided. A sight as rare as hen's teeth, as they say around here. Cattle are just as bad. A fine cow shelter was the first building we erected on the farm. It was built of our favoured material — old telegraph poles — and was a structure of the lowest grade imaginable. Nobody would have listed it except under "firewood". But it would have kept the rain and snow off the cows if they had ever bothered to stand under it. They didn't. And pigs are no better.

horse standing in a shelter its owner has

For our farrowing sows, I used to arrange a snug little maternity unit complete with deep, chopped straw so the piglets would not lose themselves in the bedding, an infra-red bulb to keep them This was hugely enjoyed by the sows until the moment of farrowing when they plonked themselves down in the draught-

iest corner of the pig run and got down to business. It is like pregnant mothers in abandoning the linthe first twinges, and

going outside to give birth in the bus shelter. There is no pleasing some. But life for anyone in a listed building can be tricky. We live in a Grade II listed farmhouse. It's no big deal. Houses are listed if built before a certain date: it is as

**DOWN TO EARTH** 



measure of the virtue of the building, just a recognition of the fact that it is old.

Our house certain-

ly isn't special - just a typical East Angli-an, long, thin farmhouse. I have often thought that listing simplistic approach to the preservation of dwellings. If you draw a parallel with old people, there are many

grumpy old souls lit only for bulldozing and others that you would wish to preserve for ever. Merely being old is no great virtue in itself.

What is even more irrational about the

thing which is protected is the outside appearance. As a planning officer once explained to me. I can turn the inside of our house into a replica of Stringfellows nightclub if I wish, but try to change a window frame and the full weight of the

هكذا من رلامل

ut anyone who understands houses appreciates that façade matters for very little when it comes to the fraught business of daily life. Some of the grandest creations are dreary holes, spooky and drab. Did anyone really think Mentmore would have been a happy place to live in? Does anyone go home from a Buck House visit wishing they lived in one of those icingbeen in badly-constructed cottages built to a mean specification, and found a

planning law will descend upon me.

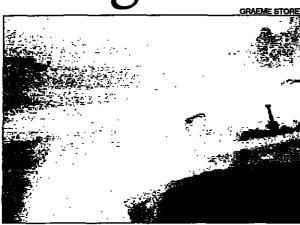
estate of National Trust houses could not muster. It goes without saying which will be preserved, and which flattened at the slightest hint of a new supermarket.

Having said that, I have no alternative way of assessing properties worthy of preservation than the one we employ. To judge the convenience and feel of a home would require an assessor to dwell in the house for at least a week, if no longer. And life is difficult enough without a knock on the door from a planning officer, complete with pyjamas, telling you he'll be moving in for a fortnight to reassess your "listing", which he believes might have changed since you swept the chimney and got the kitchen window

ımstuck at last. So pity poor lvy who will not snuggle up in a kennel over which more socially ambitions of might fight. She has come up with a grading system of her own, based on how she feels: just as we all do about houses old and new. It must be galling for her owners that she has given it the paws-down, but it proves that what constitutes a decent home is more

Readers' letters are welcome on countryside matters, of all kinds. Address them to: Paul Heiney, Weekend, The Times, I Pennington Street, London El 9XN. They are published on the first Saturday of the month.

## Gone but never forgotten



Peter Birkett visits Margate to commemorate the last century's worst British lifeboat disaster

t is ten days since helicopter winchman William Deacon died in to save the crew of a stricken ship. By unhappy comes exactly 100 years after the last century's worst British

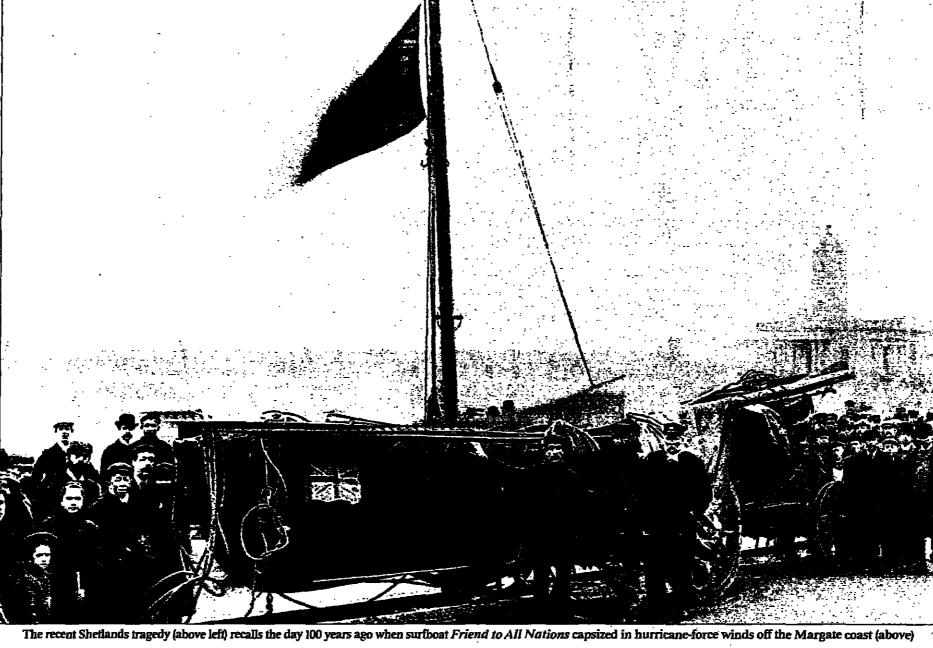
lifehoat disaster. The memory of the Margate surfboat disaster of December 2, 1897, remains vivid in the Kent resort which gave nine of

its gallant men to the sea. Tomorrow, hundreds will gather on Margate seafront to take part in a simple wreathlaying ceremony. Later, the townspeople will be joined by a handful of descendants of the dead crewmen at a service of remembrance.

It will be, says John Farmer, the 62-year-old great-grand-son of George Ladd, one of the crew who perished, an occasion for "awed respect" for the men whose names are still recalled in the town's pubs.

Even in the days when life at sea was cheap, the Margate disaster stunned Britain. Twenty thousand people attended the funeral. Five who survived were fêted as heroes for the rest of their lives and a fund for the relatives of the dead raised nearly £10,000, the equivalent today of almost El million. Queen Victoria sent

a personal cheque for £35. At the time Margate had two lifeboats, the RNLI's Ouiver and a lighter, faster 32ft surfboat, owned by the



town's fishermen, called

claims, competition was fierce for a place aboard.

Friend to All Nations. Both boats were crewed from a pool of 120 men deemed eligible as lifeboatmen and, because of the opportunities to earn con-siderable sums from salvage

But the speed of the tenoared Friend made her the favourite, and, when the alarm was raised, the lifeboatmen would dash to get

a place aboard her. The terrible events of 1897 began when a great storm hit the east coast on November 29, with hurricane force northeasterly gales which blew for days. At 5am on December 2, the duty coastguard saw distress signals from a vessel, the cargo ship Persian Empire. Twenty minutes later Friend launched from the harbour slipway, the race won that day by 13 men: William Cook Snr (Coxswain), Henry Richard Brockman, William Cook Jnr. Robert Cook, Edward Crunden, John Dike, William Gill, George Ladd, Henry John Brockman. Joseph Epps, John Gilbert, Robert Ladd and Charles Troughton, the superintendent of the Margate Am-

bulance Corps.
As the Friend made her way into the huge breakers, other launch Quiver, finding their way blocked by the surfboat's launching trolley, almost cerdelaying tactic.

Aboard Friend, the crew

The lifeboatmen who lost their lives in the rescue attempt

were pulling powerfully on the oars towards the Mayland Rock, off the western end of Margate. But just as she rounded the rock a huge sea rolled in and, despite valiant efforts by Cox'n Cook, the

vessel cansized.

Tollowing exactly the same route as the Friend in the wild seas and pitch darkness, the crew of Quiver were unaware of the tragedy unravelling in the very waters they were sailing. They held their course past the rock, out towards the Persian Empire. Mr Epps, one of the Friend's five survivors, later recalled the last moments of the stricken surfboat as he and William Cook Inr clung desperately to the gunwales. Cook, said Epps, cried out: "Oh dear, Oh

Lord. She's going!" Epps found himself beneath the upturned boat and was able to jam his arms between the thwarts, keeping his head in the air-pocket. Still submerged, he was rescued when the boat was smashed ashore. Three others, Henry John Brockman, John Gilbert and Robert Ladd, also made it back but the others drowned. News of the disaster swept

were left without a father. Margate went into mourning as a single mass grave was dug. The entire town turned out to watch when ten days later the coffins of eight of the crewmen were carried along the seafront on the Friend's launching trolley. The ninth

sands gathered on the seafront

unfolded, Troughton's body

was the first to come ashore,

then that of Cox'n Cook. By

nightfall there five women had

been widowed and 14 children

coffin, that of Troughton, was carried on an ambulance litter by members of the Margate Ambulance Corps. Within hours of the disaster the mayor announced the setting up of the relatives' relief fund. There was criti-cism of the decision to spend a large sum on a marble monualmshouses for the widows

and orphans. There was also resentment. which lasted for years, that the widows would receive a weekly allowance of 15 shillings from the fund. The children would get half a crown.

Today the controversy, un-like the brave men, is long forgotten. And tomorrow for the people of Margate will be a day for quiet pride.

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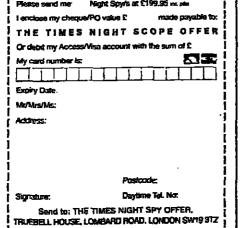
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#### ON THE SPOT: TANTALLON CASTLE

Rural recommendations The place: Tantallon Castle, North Berwick, East Lothian.

The view: overlooking the Firth of Forth and, ahead, the small island of Bass Rock and its lighthouse.

The appeal: a formidable castle in a rugged setting. Aficionados: Friends of Historic Scotland and

pact with Henry VII of

overseas visitors. Historical interest: it was built in the 14th century and played a defensive role for 200 years. One such siege began after Archibaid, the fifth Earl. entered a treasonable



England to deliver James IV into English hands. King James survived the siege. How to get there: take the Al98 to North Berwick

and the castle is three miles east. OS ref: 596/851 on sheet

Time to visit: open all

year round except Thursday afternoon and Friday during winter. Also nearby: nature trails along the coast and

Rock, now a wildlife sanctuary and home to a colony of gannets.

the volcanic crag of Bass DEBORAH KING



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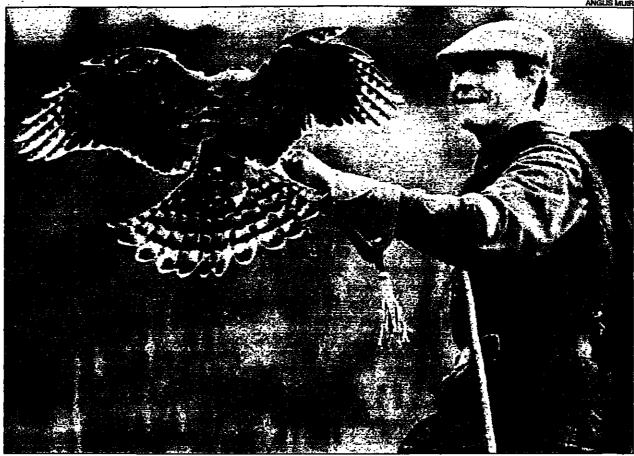
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It's what you want to know

Once the sport of the aristocracy, falconry has begun to catch the imagination of all classes, says Rohan Daft





The actor James Robertson Justice was a keen falconer. Nick Kester with his goss hawk Freya: the pair regularly hunt at dawn before Mr Kester commutes into London

## Winged winners in the talon contest

rom the flash of the white button of a tail to the small and final squeak took less than ten seconds. In between, came the ominous sound, some 30 yards distant, of wings beating and the soft tinkle of a small bell. The goss hawk had taken its quarry

hawk had taken its quarry.

Had it been something more appealing than a rabbit in the advanced stages of myxomatosis it would have been shared out; the fillet going into its owner Nick Kester's pot and the rest to the bird. As it was, the hawk was quickly recovered and the horribly mutated rabbit dispatched and disposed of. Within a minute or so, we were off again.

Falconry — taking a wild quarry by means of a trained hawk — has been enjoying something of a renaissance. Numerous courses have sprung up for beginners. For those who have neither the time nor inclination to own their own bird there are various falconry centres where birds — for the most part Harris hawks, the easiest hawks to handle — can be

hired by the day or half day. (Incidentally the difference between hawks and falcons is that a falcon can be a hawk, but a hawk can't be a falcon.)

The fashion designer Alexander McQueen is a big fan, as his collection for Givenchy earlier this year — all eagle wings and feathered corsets — reflected. Rob Wainright, the Scottish rugby union player, also goes hawking, as does the actress Miranda Richardson, though she doesn't actually hunt anything. The Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and Princess Royal keep up the age-old royal tradition of hawking at Sandringham.

But what was once very much a sport for the upper-classes is now, if not quite a sport for the people, certainly fast becoming the field sport for the people.

"It's completely classless," says Mr Kester, spokesman of the 1,000strong British Falconers' Club. "It has become more artisan. A lot of falconers now choose their careers so they can go hawking. I know an awful lot of shift workers." Mr Kester, who works in market-

ing, hawks from dawn every day before setting off for his London office. The sport is not prohibitively expensive (an introductory lesson costs about £50 and a decent hawk, such as a Harris, will set you back between £500 and £600 — about the same as a decent mountain bike). In the words of a number of its newfound participants, hawking is fast-becoming "the acceptable side of field sports".

he beauty of the bird helps—Mr Kester's bird. Freya, fiercely amber-eyed, is about two feet long and has a wingspan of about three and a half feet—but what undoubtedly contributes to this "acceptability" is the nature versus nature aspect. Although the League Against Cruel Sports is opposed to hawking, its greatest concern is not the hunting of animals by other animals, but the

conditions in which some hawks are kept. Little happens in hawking that doesn't happen in the wild, and, on top of that, the majority of hawkers hawk for the pot. Indeed, if anything, the taking of a rabbit by a trained bird is a far less painful act than it is in the wild where a goss hawk, for instance, will eat a rabbit alive.

But that doesn't mean that falconers (and there are some 3,000 that actually own and fly their own birds) feel any less threatened by proposed anti-hunting legislation than other field sportsmen.

Substitute my flailing at a hedgerow with a stick to flush out rabbit for the more traditional "backing a point" (where two pointers locate and flush out their prey) and the passing of Mike Foster's Anti-Hunting Bill would put an end to that particular method of hawking for rabbit and hare.

The hawking fraternity's greatest fear is possibly appeasement. Mr Kester says: "Falconry was banned in Denmark to appease the green lobby.

There are only about 3,000 falconers in this country [compared to some 250,000 who hunt] and that makes us very vulnerable". For all its newfound popularity, and the existence of the British Falconers' Club. the social camaraderie of hunting and shooting

- the balls and dinners - doesn't

really exist with falconry. Mr Kester

says: "It is a solitary sport. Most

falconers go out alone or with only

one other falconer."

After a day out in each other's company in Kent we ended up empty-handed. Freya flew five times but took nothing but one diseased rabbit. "You need infinite patience," said Mr Kester as we made our way home. "James Robertson Justice was a very keen falconer, and he said: 'It takes a comparatively short time to train a falcon and about seven years to train

 Information on introductory courses and lessons can be obtained from the British Falconers' Club. Home Farm. Hints, Nr. Tamworth, Staffordshire B78 3DW (01534 481737).

a falconer"."

## Drumming up interest

FEATHER REPORT

SNIPE ARE a more familiar sight in winter than they used to be. This is not because they are more common but because there are now so many more nature reserves with hides looking out on to

pools with boggy edges - just the sort of place where snipe

like to doze all day before going off to dig for worms at night.

I have often watched them from a few yards away, with their amazing long beaks, and a most beautiful pattern of golden stripes on their mantle. But if you just walk through wet meadows or marshes in winter, all you see of them is a bird leaping up with a rasping cry, zigzagging

over the ground, then tower-

ing up and away into the sky.

That is the challenging sight that sportsmen seek out.

After Christmas the snipe start returning to the moors and bogs, where they breed, and then they become easier to see. As the days grow longer, the males begin to fly around their territories, making a loud "ticker, ticker" call, then plunging down to earth, making a humming or buzzing sound that has been likened either to a bleating goat or to distant thunder. It is an extraordinary sound, and once gave rise to a fierce

debate. In Victorian times, it was generally believed that the "drumming" (as it is generally called) was produced vocally. Some people, however, thought the sound was made by the rapid movement of the bird's wings. But as the snipe descends, it can easily be seen that its two outer tail feathers are sticking out at right angles to its tail.

So a number of experiments were conducted with two snipe outer tail feathers. They were attached by wire to a stick and the stick was whirled round. They were also attached to an arrow, which was shot into the sky and fell back to earth.

and fell back to earth.

In each case, they produced the snipe's drumming sound, and it is generally accepted now that that the tail feathers do the trick. It is a very haunting note if you hear it as you walk across the moors at twilight — hard to locate at first, and rather ghostly.

HOWEVER, a long rearguard action was fought by ornithologists who continued to believe that the drumming was a vocal note, and reports still occasionally appear of snipe apparently drumming while sitting on the ground. Some of these reports may simply be errors of observation or hearing, but it has also been suggested that the tail feathers can be activated in a strong wind.

Nevertheless, a faint air of mystery still hangs about the snipe, and no doubt next spring, here and there, the debate will spark into life once again.

#### DERWENT MAY

 Feather Reports, a chronicle of a year's bird life by Derwent May, based on his Times articles and illustrated by Robin Jacques, is published by Robson Books at £12.95.

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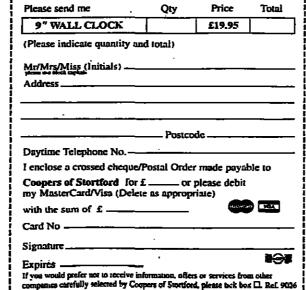
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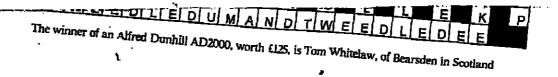
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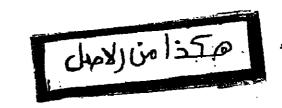
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Andrew Brown on non-Christians who want their children christened

also one of the com-

monest: what to do with a

couple who live in the area and

haven't been seen in church

for years, who suddenly turn

up and ask, enigmatically, to

Do they mean they want the

child brought up as a Chris-

tian? Almost certainly not.

About a third of all babies

born in this country are

baptised but, for the over-

whelming majority, this brief

wetting will be their last

contact with a priest until they

Some priests are under

standably weary of this half-

hearted approach to their

church. "I am not wasting my

time performing a meaning-less rite for parents who think

it's all nonsense and just an excuse for a party," explained one curate I know.

He insists that all baptisms

take place in the context of a

Sunday morning service, so

that parents have some sense

of the community they are

supposed to be joining.

are married.

have their baby "done".



'Making

promises

that will

not be

kept is

wrong'

ing Christians who are sincere about it. To provide for the insincere, a loose network of Anglican vicars is experimenting with "naming services". known to their opponents as anti-christenings.

"It's inappropriate to bap-tise the children of households who are not effectively believing, says the Rev Andii Vicar of St Augustine's Bradford, a priest who writes his own "antichristening" services.

Mr Bowsher's technique when parents come to him. is to discover whether they actually want their child to grow up a Christian, with a family and godparents who will nurture it in the faith.

If this prospect frightens them, he offers them his own service, based on the Service of Thanksgiving in the Alterna-tive Service Book. "If people reprosed to be joining. are making promises they Others have decided to reduce to keep, that is strict baptism to those practis- wrong," he says.

Mr Bowsher's service starts with a prayer of thanksgiving for the child's birth, and then the parents name their child: "Almighty God." he says, "We present N to you. Look with

lavour on him/her. help him/her grow ever closer to you and order his/her life to draw him/her to fullness

mighty God deliver you from darkness and lead you into the light of Christ, and the blessing of God; the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you. now and always. Amen."

The parents are asked: "Will you try to be trustworthy as a parent, patient and understanding so that your child may always be sure of your love and grow to be secure and responsible?" The congregation is asked to make wishes on the child's behalf and join in a prayer of blessing. So whatever the language used, there is plenty of God in the service, but no

baptism.
This, says Mr
Bowsher, is a better service" for most of the people who come to him, and he encourages them to call it a christening which can cause trouble later, when the parents discover that almost all priests use "christening" only

His attitude is anathema to the Bishop of Ely, the Rt. Rev Stephen Sykes, who is chairman of the Church's doctrine commission and suggests that there is a danger of working-class parents being bullied by middle-class priests.

"Clergy who interrogate prospective parents like that are bamboozling them. It is an abuse of literacy."

Dr Sykes expresses himself with unusual passion, partly because he recently found because he recently found himself in a London taxi whose driver had been put through just such an interrogation when he wanted his own baby "done" and welcomed the chance to work off his feelings on a captive bishop. "He was taking his hands from the wheel to shake them with fury," said the

His own solution, when a parish priest, was to offer as godparents members of the congregation, who could fulfil the vows they made to nourish the child in faith. To Mr Bowsher, this is "frankly sil-

At the General Synod this week, new baptismal rites were on the agenda under the the responsibility of the Bishop of Salisbury, the Rt. Rev David Stancliffe, who is chairman of the Church of England's Liturgical Commis-sion. He believes that he may

The dispute goes right to the heart of the Church of Eng-

ther believes nor wants to?

have found a way through the minefield, with new vows for the godparents that do not require them to pretend they are zealously Christian Simply by wanting to have

on theological grounds.

their children baptised, he argues, the parents and godparents have shown an openness to faith, though many priests would reject that notion

land's position in the nation. The funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, demonstrated that people will come to church in emergencies - but most of the spontaneous mourning had nothing particularly Christian about it; and the only bits of the service that made a real impression were those performed by the amateurs, Tony Blair and Earl Spencer.

Anti-christenings are only a small part of a wider problem: how far can the church compromise itself in its efforts to reach a population that nei-

and soon became scapegoats for many crimes. Elizabeth I accused them of hiding priests and, in 1563, ordered them to leave the country.

Similar coercive measures in other countries followed. But none has

been more terrible than the Nazis' mass sterilisation and murder of the gypsies in this century. Sterilisation and gassing of gypsies was carried out at Auschwitz and in 1945 all tion camps were gassed. It is this that makes so horrifying the words shouted recently by Slovakian skinheads at the gypsies fleeing to Kent: "Go to the gas chambers, gypsy."

Last month, Slovakia's President

Vladimir Meciar said: "We should curtail the reproduction of this socially unadaptable and mentally backward population." Such chilling echoes of Nazism must not, I believe, be left unchallenged. Every gypsy, like us, is made in the divine image; and, under God, is our neighbour. ● The Right Rev Nigel McCulloch is Bishop of Wakefield

### Led along poetic paths



Ruth Gledhill hears

the church's new post-millennial service

FOR nearly 30 years, be-neath the gilt legend: Wherein they rejoice with gladness evermore", church eaders and their flock have variously talked and fought over issues such as women priests in meetings of the General Synod of the

Church of England. This week, for the first time, the synod gathered in the circular assembly hall of Church House, Westminster, for a significant departure from usual practice. The 500-plus members, including more than 20 bishops and even an Arch-bishop, decided to celebrate

communion together. The synod was trying out new service, "Rite 1". designed by a committee of liturgists to replace "Rite A" in the 1980 Alternative Service Book when it expires at the millennium. All who detest the ASB have been praying that God will lead the church's liturgists down more poetic paths for its replacement. These prayers have been answered in all but one respect. The inelegant response, And also with you, to the phrase-The Lord be with you", has not only been retained, but must be said twice. The oftrepeated joke about the bishop who told his congre-

appears not to have been heard by the liturgists. In place of the usual ranks of bewigged lawyers, church secretaries, bishops, clerks and their minions on the top table was a simple white cloth and two heavy,

gation: "There's something wrong with this micro-

phone", provoking the res-

ponse: "And also with you",

silver candlesticks. Small but important changes have been effected to the Nicene Creed. "Men" have come out of "For us and for our salvation" and references to the Holy Spirit as male have been deleted.

SERVICE \*A five-star guide \* CELEBRANT: Canon

AT YOUR

Michael Perham SERMON: Profound and moving. \*\*\* MUSIC: Piano-led hymn and

PIRITUAL HIGH: Sense of unity. ★★★★ AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Tea ruined by long-life milk

of St Albans, the Right Rev Christopher Herbert, spoke of our image of God. When was a curate and teacher in Hereford, I asked the youngsters what they thought God looked like. Some said he was an old man with a beard. Then a 14-year-old girl said God was a boy of about nine with blond hair.

"It was surprisingly specific so I asked her why. All that's what he's really like." Another boy told me God was not a person at all, but a corridor full of television sets all taking to each other." A bit like the synod,

we agreed.

As it happens, the synod had already thrown out the proposed new eucharistic prayers, so when we progressed through commu-nion, it was back to the ASB, before returning to the new version for the breaking of the bread and the giving of the bread and

Although more flexible than before and better written, the new service is little different to the old. Yet the sense of communion was different, arousing speculation that maybe there was something holy about the synod after all. Church House, Westminster, SWI (0171-222 9011). In his sermon, the Bishop



The celebrant Canon Michael Perham

#### The recent arrival of gypsies from Slovakia has inevitably caused social and economic problems for the people of Kent. But. however much we may understand their dismay as they face this unexpected strain on facilities, it is right for all those who believe that each individual is made in the image of God to voice proper and public concern for the way in which this ancient race is so often treated.

sies have long been a source of fascination to Christian clergy. As a former member of the Gypsy Lore Society, I recall that their arrival in Europe around 1100 was first noted by a Georgian monk at Mount Athos. Then, in the 18th century a Protestant preacher discovered their Indian origins. Their often intense faith is decoly rooted in ancient Indian custom, oriental beliefs and Central European demonology. But they have been consistently adept at absorbing the religious customs of the area where they happen to be

Thus, from the early 15th century.

EXCLUSIVE OFFER

### Remember, God loves the gypsies and so should we

Europe, we find increasing references to them as good make their first recorded appearances in Elizabethan baptism registers. Gypsies were also often to be found among those making Christian pilgrimages to holy places. The medieval penchant for journeys appealed to a

people who were natural travellers. Indeed, the nomadic culture of the gypsies has obvious parallels with Judaeo-Christianity - not least in Abraham "the wandering Aramaean", the late journey of the Israelites through the wilderness from Egypt to the Promised Land, and in Jesus who



McCULLOCH

THE



had "nowhere to lay his head". The Acts of the Apostles refers to the early Christian disciples as "The Way".

Many gypsy legends are coloured by biblical stories which were assimilated into their tradition. These legends often have about them the poignancy of a suffering people. Some refer to gypsy origins and, in times dishonesty, the gypsies faced

Cain in Genesis 4:12 "a fugi-tive and a vagabond shalt Other tales say that a gypsy persuaded Judas Iscariot to

betray Jesus and that gypsy smiths forged the nails for the Cross. In fact there is no evidence to show that there were any gypsies in Palestine at that time. Nevertheless, unmistakably woven into so many of these

legends is the belief that their nomadic existence and the sufferings and rejection they endure are a form of divine retribution.

Forced to live by their wits, often

## Church services tomorrow

#### The Times **Best Sermons for 1998**

Edited and introduced by Ruth Gledhill

There are many men and women preachers 1. throughout Britain delivering line, wellconstructed, enjoyable sermons, who deserve recognition beyond their own congregations but who fail to achieve it. Ruth Gledhill, religious affairs correspondent of The Times, recognised this, and the result was The Times Preacher of the Year Award 1995. The collected sermons for 1995 and 1996 have since become bestsellers.

year's competition. They constitute The Times Best Sermons for 1998. They are the thoughts of preachers from all denominations, encompassing a variety of styles of worship. Together they provide a source of enjoyment and spiritual enrichment that will make them a valued companion for anyone trying to make sense of the challenge of faith in our complex world.

Here are 30 sermons shortlisted for this

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e tick box if you do not wish to receive further shrows from The Trates or compenies approved by us.	GUILDFORD CATHEDI S Euch; II.30 M; 6.30 Adve
0990 134459 (24 ROURS)	LEICESTER CATHEDR. 10.30 Euch: 4 Advent carol LICHFIELD CATHEDR.
CHANGING TIMES	S Euch; 3.30 EP. 6.30 Adve

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L: 8 HC: 9.30 S Euch; II.15 M: 12.30 HC; 2 Bishop Grosseteste College Advent carols; 3.45 E. ARMAGH CATHEDRAL: 10 HC: 11 M. Canon J M Barton; 3.15 Carols and LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 8 MP & HC; 10.30 Euch, Canon M Boyling; 3 Advent service; 4 HC. BANGOR CATHEDRAL 8 HC; 9.45

Cymun Bendigaid; II Ch Euch, Darke in F: LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & L: BELFAST CATHEDRAL: 10 M. Responses: Archer: 11 S Euch, Darke in E: BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP. 9.15 HC: II Cn Euch; 4 Advent procession BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL 8 HC: 9.15

Ch M. Caron Hall: 10.30 Euch. Darke in E; 6.30 Procession and Advent carols. BRECON CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch; 11 Service of Music and Readings for Advent; 3.30 E. Wond in E flat No I.

The first Sunday of Advent

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL, 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Ch Euch; 3.30 Service for Advent. CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.30 M: II S Euch: 3.15 Advent carol service: CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 7.45 M: 8 HC: 10.30 S Euch: 3.30 Advent carol service. CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC: 9.30 Euch; 11.15 S Euch, Rev 1

Moody; 6 Advent service. CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10 Euch: 11 M; 3.30 Advent procession: 6.30 ES. CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL Dublin: 11 S Euch, Mass for 5 voices (Byrd):

8 Advent procession. CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Ox-5.30 Adren: cami service. CORK CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch; II.15 S

Euch: 7 Advent service. COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP: 8 C: 10.30 Euch: 5 E: 7 Advent procession DERBY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.45 S Euch, 4 EP: 6 Advent carol service. DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 M:

ILIS HC: 3.30 E. Responses; Ayleward: 7 ELY CATHEDRAL: 815 HC: 1030 S Euch; 6.30 Advent procession. in E flat: 6.30

DRAL: S HC: RAL: 8 HC: 9 45 AL: 8 HC: 10 M: AL: 8 HC: 10.30

S, 9 Euch: II S Euch, Darke in F; 12.15 Euch; 3.30 Advent procession; 6.30 E & Sermon. MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL 8.45 M: 9 Euch: 10.30 S Euch. Canon J Atherton: 0.30 Readings and music for Advent. NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL 7.30 M; 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Tallis Short Service: 6 Music and readings for Advent.

NEWPORT CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M: 6.30 Music and readings for Advent. NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP: 8. 9.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch: 3.30 EP: 6.30 Advent procession with carols. PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL 9.30

M; 10.30 Euch: 3.30 E: Collegium Regale (Howells): 6 Procession of Advent carols. PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 S Euch: Messe solennelle (Langlais); 4 Advent carol service.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.45
M: 10.30 S Euch, Canon R Lea: 3.15 E; 6.30

Advent carol service. SALISBURY CATHEDRAL 8 HC: 10 Euch: 11.30 M; 3 Ch E, Responses: Lloyd; 7 Advent candlelight procession.

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 MP: 10.20 S Euch: 6.30 Advent procession. SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch: II Ch Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley); 6.30 Advent carol service. SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.45 Litany: 8 HC: 9.30 C; 11 M. Ireland in F: 6.30 E.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9 M; 10 S Euch: 5 EP: 6 Advent carol service. WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 C: 11 Solemn Euch, Ireland in C. WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.45 S Euch; 11.30 M; 3 E; 5 Advent carol service. WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M; 11.15 Euch, Missa brevis (Walton): 3 E; 6.30 ES, Canon D Gray.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7.8, 9, (0.30 Sol Mass; 12 Mass; 2.45 Organ Recital; 3.30 Sol V & B; 5.30, 7 Mass, WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.35 M; 10 S Euch: 3.30 E, Stanford in C: 6.30 St Swithun's School Advent service. ST ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL Hertfordshire: 8 HC: 9.30 Euch; 11 Solemn Euch: 6.30 Advent procession.

ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL, Abenleen: 8 HC; 10:15 S Euch, Missa Ave Jesu (Oldroydi; 6:30 Advent carol service. ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC. II Ch Euch; 3.30 Advent carol service.

ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 930 Euch: II.15 Ch M, Ireland in F, 6 Advent sion with carols. ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL

8.30 HC; 10 S Euch, Ireland in C; 11.30 HC; 3.30 Advent sequence of music and words. ST MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL Old Aberdeen: II HC, Rev R Frazer, ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 Euch; 10,30 S Euch, Rev J Conway; 3,30 EP: 0,30 Advent carol service. ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, Glasgow:

8.30 Euch: 10 S Euch; 12 HC; 6.30 Ch E. ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, Dublin: 8.30 Euch; 11.15 S Euch; 3.15 Candlelight Advent procession and carols ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 8.45 M:

II S Euch: 3.15 E. Rev S Oliver, Howells in E: 6.30 Advent carol service. RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHE-DRAL, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy, Kievan and traditional polyphony. Met Anthony. ALL SAINTS, WI: 8 LM; 10.20 MP; II HM. Mass for 4 voices (Byrd); 4.30 EP; 5.15

LM; 6 Advent carol service. ALL SOULS, WI: 8 C; 9.30, 11.30 MP, Rev Dr J Stott: 6.30 EP.
THE ASSUMPTION, WI: II MS, Missa dixit Maria (Hasler). CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC: 10 Children's Service; 11 M; 12.15 HC; 6

Advent carols.
CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOT-FARM STREET, WI: 8, 930 LM; II HM; IZ30 LM; 4.15, 6.15 LM. HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, SW7: 9

HC; II MS; 5, 7.30 informal Service.

THE ORATORY, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa Transeunte Domino (Handl): 12.30 Mass; 3.30 V & B; 4.30, 7 Mass. ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH WS: 11 Holy Mass, Archbishop Y Gizirian. WESLEY'S CHAPEL EC2: 9.45 HC, Rev

Dr L Griffiths; II MS. WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist): II MP for Advent; 6.30 ES. ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St. EC2: 11 Ch Euch, Rev P D Schmiege: 3 Advent lessons and carols. ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, ECI: 9 HC; II Ch Euch, The Rector; 6.30 E, First Service (Morley).

ST BRIDE'S, EC4: II Ch M and Euch, Dyson in F. Canon J Oales; 5:30 Advent ST CLEMENT DANES, WC2: II Ch M, Benedicite (Purcell); 12.30 HC. ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOT-IAND. SWI: 11. The Archbishop of Canterbury: 3 Scottish Festival Service: ST ETHELDREDA'S, ECI: II S Mass. The Western Wind Mass (Taverner). ST GEORGE'S, WI: 8.30 HC: II S Euch. Missa Bel' Amfitrit' Ahera (Lasso). ST JAMES'S, W2: 10.30 S Euch. Missa Rorate Coeli de super (Haydrı), Rev B

Wilson; 6 Advent procession. ST JAMES'S, WI: 8.30 HC; II S Euch, Pr. Sophie Wellbeloved; 5.45 EP. ST JOHN'S, EIS: II HC, Rev M Okello; 6.30 Special service for World Aids Day, ST LUKE'S, SW3: 8 HC: 10.30 S Euch, Rev

B Newton; 6.30 Advent carols. ST MARK'S. NWI: 10.30 Euch. Mass for 4 voices (Byrd), Canon P J S Edwards; 3.30 'Advent Observed'. ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2 8 HC: 9.45 Euch, Rev C Herbert: 11.30 Visitors Service: 2.45 Chinese Service, Rev G Lee: 6.30 Advent carol service.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, W& 8 HC: 9.30 Euch. Fr M Banham; II.I5 Ch M; 12.30 HC; 6.30 E. ST MARY'S, SWI: 9, 10 LM; II HM, Canon Haliburton; 6 Sol E & B; 7 LM, ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, NW3: 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, Plainsong Mass, Rev D Jones; 6 Advent carol service.

ST MARYLEBONE, NWI: 8 HC: II Ch Euch, Mass for 3 voices (Byrd); 6.30 Advent carols by candlelight.

ST PAUL'S, SWI: 8, 9 HC; II Solemn Euch, Missa octavi toni (Lassus), Rev N ST PETER'S. SWI: 8.15 HC: 10 Family Euch: II S Euch, Missa Simile est regnum (F Guerrero), Fr D B Tillyer. CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD

VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; II M & Sermon, Responses: Byrd, Rev CHAPEL ROYAL St James's Palace 8.30 HC, II.IS S Euch, Canon D H Wheaton. CHAPEL ROYAL Hampton Court Palace 8.30 HC; 11 M. Dyson in F. 3.30 Advent

service of lessons and carols. GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley St., WI: II S Euch, Mass for 5 voices (Byrd). QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY. QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY. WC2: II S Euch, The Savoy Service (Cole). QUEEN'S FREE CHAPEL OF ST GEORGE, Windsor Castle, 8.30 HC: 10.45 M & Sermon: 11.45 S Euch, 5.15 E.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, EC4: 8.30, ILIS HC, Collegium Regale. GUARDS CHAPEL Wellington Barracks, SWI: II M, Benedictus (Gibbons). Band of the Grenadier Guards; 12 HC. ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL SEIO: II S Euch, Darke in E minor, Rev R

Shing X1 Button M

## Ruth (iledhill)

#### **WEEKEND ACTIVITIES** AND COURSES

## Top to toe festivities

DECEMBER 5-7 Multi-Activity Weekend in Snow donia. Get some exercise before Christmas. climbing, abseiling, white-water rafting and canoeing. With Acorn Activities of Hereford (01432, 830083). Price £150, fullboard, including equipment and instruction.

Skiing Workshop and Practice. Get ready for the slopes with a day or a weekend at the Calshot Activities Centre, Calshot Spit, Southampton (01703 892077). Price £45 per day, including lunch and

equipment.
Fell-Walking Weekends in the
Lake District. With Mountain Goat and Countrywide Holidays (0161-448 7112). From Grasmere to the more remote fells. Prices from £133, including accommodation

A Guided Tour of the Universe The Natural History of Christmas. Reading Latin documents. Three courses at the University of Cambridge, Madingley Hall (01954 210636). Price £117, tuition and accommodado

Top-to-Toe Hair and Beauty, Stained Glass: Lighting Design. Three courses at the Lancashire College, Chorley (01257 260909). Price £96, all-inclusive.

We Were Amused - Entertainment and Leisure in the Victorian era: The Music of Spain. Two lively courses at the Old Rectory, Fittleworth, West Sussex (01798 865306). Price from £114 residential, £90 non-residential.

Handmade Chocolates for Christmas: A Christmas Bridge Party; Competitive Duplicate Bridge with Partners for Singles: Painting on Silk: You Too Can Sing. All at the Earnley Concourse, Chichester, West Sussex (01243 670392). Price per course, £142 residential, £98 non-residential.

Folk Music for Fun. At the Belstead House Education and Conference Centre, Ipswich (01473 686321). From £75-£95, full board. The Music of Sibelius, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, Tombs of the Pharaoks. Some of the courses at Dillington House, Ilminster, Somerset (01460 55866). From £24 a day or £115 per

Drawing for the Terrified (painting)! At the Alston Hall Residential College, Longridge Preston, Lancs (01772 784661). From £75, full board and tuition included. Life Painting in Oils, Blacksmith-



Making tracks: off-road driving is available on the Welsh Marches

Preston (01772 784661). Prices from

Brace Yourself for Christmas. At

Braziers, Ipsden, near Wallingford, Oxon (0149) 680221). Price, all

Christmas Crackers or The Folk-

lore and History of Christmas.

Why do we kiss under the mistle-

toe? When was Christmas made

illegal? At the Burton Manor

College, South Wirral, Cheshire

Prices from £111 to £119, inclusive.

Wine Appreciation: Christmas Walks and Talks; Yoga; Poetry at Christmas. At the Hill Residential

Centre, Abergavenny (01495

History of Opera, Beginnings

and Monteverdi; Japanese

Tamari Balls and Chinese Rice

Dumplings; The Dracula Myth; Embroidered Caskets. A range of

courses at Missenden Abbey, Great Missenden, Bucks (01494 890296). Prices from £159 residen-

Silk Painting: Academic Drawing

in Tone, Calligraphy, Adornment of the Garden. All at West Dean

College, Chichester. West Sussex (01243 811301). Prices £150 residen-

Folk Dancing for Singles. With

HF Holidays at Malhamdale, Yorkshire (0181-905 9558). Price

English Cathedrals, Trollope and

Hardy, The Way We Write Now.

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tial and £97 non-residential.

from E149.

tial and £69.20 non-residential.

333777). Prices from £88-£112.

(0151-336 6586). Price £98.

The Bardie Mysteries. Hawkwood College, Stroud, Gloucestershire (01453 759034).

£75-£80 inclusive

inclusive, £92.

ing for Beginners; Basic Woodworking and Carpentry. At the West Dean College, Chichester, West Sussex (01243 811301). Prices from £150 residential and £97 non-

Certified First Aid. A useful course for families at Braziers, Ipsden, Wallingford, Oxon (0149) 680221). Price £112, tuition and full board. Arms, Armour and Fortifications of the Middle Ages. At the University of Oxford, Dept of Continuing Education, Rewley House (01865) 270360). Price £44, accommodation

by arrangement.
From Hastings to Bosworth Field. A history of medieval war-fare at Higham Hall, Bassenthwaite Lake, Cumbria (017687 76276). From £112 residential or £72.50 non-residential.

DECEMBER 12-14 Off-Road Driving, Learn to Ride. Two active weekends on the Welsh Marches with Acorn Activities of Hereford (01432 830083). From E144 to E249 for two nights, depending on activity and accommodation.

Advent Reflection and Celebration. At the Ammerdown Centre, Bath (01761 433709). Prices from £69, all inclusive. The Natural History of Christ-

mas, Winter Walks. Outdoor courses at Urchfont Manor. Devizes, Wilts (01380 840495). Prices from £99-£104, inclusive. Life Painting in Watercolours: Floral Craft. Two courses at the Alston Hall Residential College,

Prices from £99, inclusive.
Putting People in Pictures: Making a Traditional Teddy Bear,
Wines for Special Occasions: The
Alexander Technique. At the Old
Rectory, Fittleworth, Pullborough,
West Sussex (01798 865306). Prices
from £114 residential, or £90 nonmediated.

residential.
The Jacobite Challenge, 1688-1759;
Images of Royalty; The War Plays
of Euripides, Burne-Jones in context. A range of courses at the University of Cambridge. Madingley Hall (01954 210636). Price £117, inclusive.

Woburn, Beds (01525 292901). Prices from £99, inclusive.

Christmas Canapés: Cities of the Baltic Botanical illustration. All at the Earnley Concourse, Chichester, West Sussex (01243 670392). Prices from £142 residential, £98 non-residential.

DECEMBER 19-21

Paintball Shooting and Adventure Games, Quad Bike Racing. All at Kingsland, Herefordshire, with Acorn Activities (01432 830083j. Price £130.

Winter Walking: Circle Dances. Both at the Wedgwood Memorial College, Burlaston, Stoke-on-Trent. Staffs (01782 372105). Price, £80 allinclusive.

Health and Beauty Weekend. At the Springs Health Hydro, Packington, Leicestershire. Pool, sauna, exercise room and beauty treatments: £245 for three nights, full board. Details from Solo's

(0181-951 2800).

Brush Up Your Oil Painting
Techniques. Calligraphy. Both at
the Alston Hall Residential College (01772 784661). Price £75, inclusive of instruction and full board. A Winter Solstice Celebration. At Braziers, Ipsden, near Wallingford, Oxon (01491 680221). Price £92.

Line Dancing. Learn all the steps to a range of wild Western dances at the Burton Manor College, South Wirral (0151-336 5172). Price £98. inclusive. Popular Music in Theatre and

Film; Painting Birds and Animals. Art courses at the Pendrell Hall College, Staffordshire (01902 434112). From £86.40 residential or £60.50 non-residential.

A Practical Opera Weekend, on Eugene Onegin at the University of Cambridge, Madingley Hall Cambridge, (01954 210036). Price

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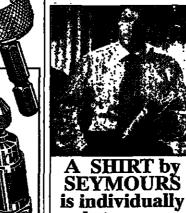
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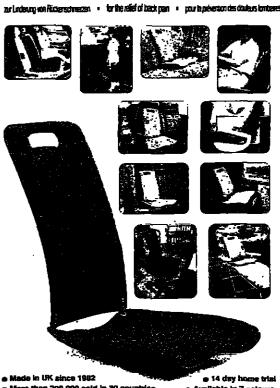
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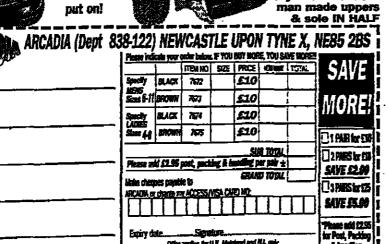


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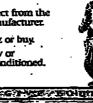
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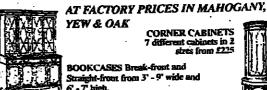
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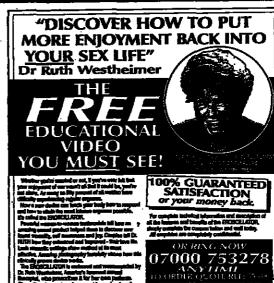
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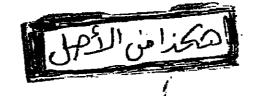
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A cross-Channel Christmas guide

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## I'm too young to go cruising

Lynne Truss was not

prepared for the pace of life on a cruise to

Singapore

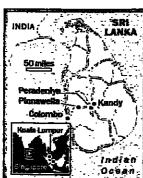
There is no better way to learn about the stamina of the elderly than to take a cruise at Christmas. Last December I had the great good fortune to join a Swan Hellenic "Christ-mas in Paradise" cruise from Sri Lanka to Singapore, but made the basic error of embarking in a state of mental and physical breakdown. I had visions of joining a deck full of nodding grey heads, eyes closed, with perhaps one ear tuned to a mind-improving lecture. On a gentle and restorative winter sunshine cruise, I could sleep my way towards the new year among people who understood.

Swan Hellenic cruiser is not a nodding grey head. Your average Swan Hellenic cruiser is busy from dawn to dusk with lectures and excursions, borrowing textbooks from the library, brushing up on earth science and attending concerts. Oh God. Most of them may be old but trust me: a wake-me-up-in-ten-years appeal arouses no sympathy from this focused bunch - no sympathy whatsoever.

Let us consider the first 36 hours of the trip. On December 22, we arrived at Colombo after a long, overnight flight; we embarked, unpacked, took a bus into Colombo, went for a walk in appalling heat, caught a bus back, took part in a confusing emergency boat rill, dressed up for dinner, nd then got up again at six o'clock in the morning for an all-day coach trip to Kandy, the ancient capital of the island, three hours inland (and uphill) from Colombo. Well, that was me done in

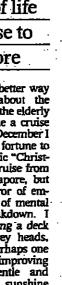
As I understand it, most cruises have compulsory discos and karaoke competitions. so I was right about one thing. On Swan Hellenic's handsome, compact and civilised Minerva, you are not dragooned into activities, even the very pleasant ones. You are

If you wanted, you could spend the whole week just closeted in the card room with a famous bridge player, never



during the bidding. (Some people did just that, in fact. They disappeared rather suddenly and were next seen queueing for the flight home.) You could also spend happy hours just observing other hassengers, in particular the celebrities. On Boxing Night, you see, Dame Judi Dench with her husband Michael Williams and daughter Finty were due to deliver a rehearsed reading. You would hardly believe how much ex-

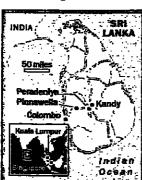
other, in whispers, "And, don't look, Michael Williams is having a pint!" Yet somehow those shore excursions still beckoned inexorably, and I found myself attending them all. It was generational pride. If the oldies were willing to clamber on that coach, I felt honourbound to pull my socks up and damber likewise. In Sri Lanka we saw orphan elephants at Pinnawella, not to mention the Buddhist shrine, the Temple of the Toth. And we walked on. That's just the way it is.



However, your average

Aren't you tired?" I would beg fellow passengers on the tour bus. But they were not. Their fitness was such as to make both fiddles and fleas look quite peaky by comparison.

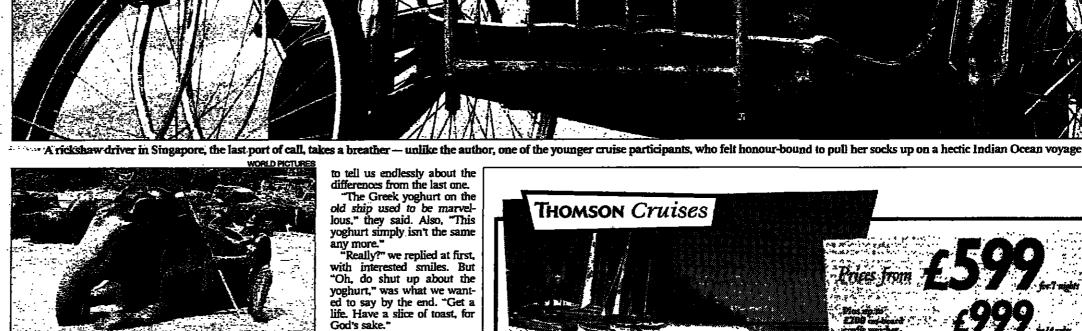
> unmolested entirely. moving except to rub your nose in a significant manner



agreeable size - not so large that you feel anonymous; not so small that it seems crowded or suffocating. That helps, too, is that whereas other cruise ships enforce a seating plan for dinner, the Minerva does not it allows you to choose between an informal citement this added to each "Dame Judi's in the café and a rather plush dining pool!" we all informed each room, and more or less en-

sures that you sit with different companions every time. This way, my boyfriend and I met several amusing individ-uals, but also (it must be said) an astonishing number of identically constituted couples in which the dull husband was an antisocial retired civil engineer and the mousey wife had been driven to seek consolation, of a sadly limited kind, in jewellery. Everyone on cruises talks about either jewellery or the

other cruises they have been



Elephants were on the itinerary, at Pinnawella in Sri Lanka

This is our seventeenth

engineering was not pushed

half hard enough as a career

path when teenagers of my

around the Botanic Gardens

is what Christmas is all about,

surely. A nice bout of flu

usually comes into it, as well.

at Peradeniya, buying authencruise," is the opening gambit tic spices in plastic packets at of many a conversation, and if you are not a professional It was marvellous and all four-times-a-year cruiser (and that, but also oh-so-weird to find ourselves in Sri Lanka, because it was still Christmas, even if it did not feel like it. your earrings are unashamed diamante), you are regarded with a certain degree of suspicion. I had to come clean that I Back at home, I knew I would had only cruised once before have been queueing in Boots to buy last-minute Wallace and that I had not paid for it. Meanwhile, I mentally totted and Gromit novelty gifts. Buyup the expense of four cruises a year and concluded that civil ing Wallace and Gromit stuff

So we had a lot of mental own generation were consideradjusting to do. However, once Sri Lanka was dealt with, ing which subjects to take at A At the same time, however, at least we could settle down to three days at sea, travelling east towards Malaysia and is a life comparing the service on cruise ships really decent getting the hang of life on board. The Minerva is a lovely employment for the brain? The Minerva being Swan ship, decorated to resemble a Hellenic's new ship (this was its inaugural season), many of the die-hard cruisers wanted country-house hotel — all table lamps and chess boards. watercolours, rugs and books. At 128 metres in length, with five decks, the ship is an

FACT FILE Lynne Truss travelled with Swan Hellenic (0171-800 2200).

The company has a 15-day Oriental Christmas cruise on the *Minerva* this year from Bangkok to Hong Kong. The trip, leaving December 14 and returning December 28, includes three ports of call in Vietnam. Prices start at £3,200, rising to £6,195, to (lights, all meals. excursions, tips and and music are features



to tell us endlessly about the differences from the last one. The Greek yoghurt on the lous," they said. Also, "This yoghurt simply isn't the same any more."

"Really?" we replied at first, with interested smiles. But "Oh, do shut up about the yoghurt," was what we wanted to say by the end. "Get a life. Have a slice of toast, for God's sake."

Oh, those yoghurt bores. Don't remind me. Still, it was good to hear the opinion of the professional cruisers. These are people who know how to behave gracefully, who lap up lectures, but who are also brutally critical if service lapses or excursions disappoint. Luckily only one of the lecturers was dreary (poor chap), but the others were excellent. Dame Judi and family were a big success on Boxing Night, the dance band and the quartet of student singers from the Guildhall were much admired; and if it had not rained on our Christmas Day barbecue, we'd have been in heaven. Admittedly, I heard a woman sneer that the lounge looked like a sofa warehouse. But I noticed she was wearing a quite horren-dous home-made frock, so I took no notice.

The shape of the cruise was its most unfortunate aspect. We began with big, tiring, hot bustle in Sri Lanka; then relaxed at sea doing nothing in air-conditioned libraries and lounges; then had a big, tiring bustle at the end visiting Kuala Lumpur and Singapore. Even restored by three days of eating and relaxing, I still found the outings a struggle, so perhaps it is just a temperament thing — I am resistant to doing a country in a day, and I don't like the heat

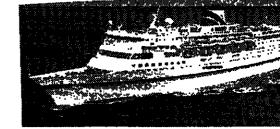
The big question, however is whether you should really holiday like this at Christmas, when your stamina is so low on the gauge that the little red light has come on. Going away for Christmas, you don't escape the associated stresses. you just pile them on early and then need more than ever to collapse. And the trouble with such a good and entertaining trip as a Swan Hellenic cruise is that it is designed to reward a degree of mental alertness. Leave me to sleep for a hundred years" is not the right attitude to bring along.

No wonder those eagerbeaver oldies with no work to do get a lot more out of it than



hink you can't afford a Caribbean cruise this winter? You'd be surprised.

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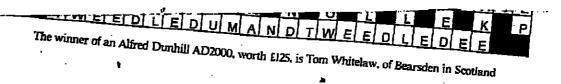
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**Jowitt says** 

two-fifths of Earth's population watched a James Bond film, making it the most successful and longrunning film series in the world. Yet the ingredients for such a film are not much more complicated than James Bond's famous Martini.

There is our suave hero. tough on villains one minute, masterful in bed the next. Then there are the Bond girls beautiful, numerous and preferably with innuendoladen names such as Pussy Galore, Holly Goodhead and GoldenEye's priceless offering: Xenia Onatopp. Then there are the blatantly product-placing gadgets - from the underwater Lotus in The Spy Who Loved Me, which months afterwards, to the laser-beamed Omega watch of GoldenEye, which has since featured in a million magazine advertisements.

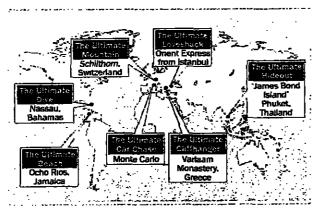
Finally, it is the wide-ranging locations that have put Bond films on the map. Tomorrow Never Dies was filmed in six countries. Some of the more jaw-clanging locations look as if they might be well off the beaten track but the pick of them are nearly all tourist destinations, as we reveal here.

#### **ULTIMATE BEACH**

Dr No: Laughing Waters Beach, near Ocho Rios. Jamaica

THE moment in Dr No when Ursula Andress as Honeychile Ryder does her Venus-risingfrom-the-waves impression is branded into a million minds as the defining moment of the cult that is now James Bond: that combination of beautiful girl, stunning location and Bond wisecrackery. The beach in question was Laughing Waters Beach, near Ocho Rios on the north coast of Jamaica. Its divine conjunction of talcum-powder white sand and brochure-perfect fringe of palm trees is crowned by a freshwater waterfall creating natural whirlpool baths for

This made it a popular



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has packages with walking tours around Lake Lucerne from April.

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■ GoldenEye: the

897888 has a week's root

For Your Eyes Only: Valaam Monastery, Meteor: Cliffs, Kalambaka, Greece, Filoxenia (01422 375999) will organise packages with hotel in Kastraki, within walking distance of the monastery. A week's stay starts at £370.

■ Dr No: Laughing Waters Beach, near Ocho Rios, Jamaica, Caribbean Connection (01244 355300) has a week's half-board at Jamaica Inn, a five-star hote in Ocho Rios, for EL250. based on two sharing. Unijet (0990 336 336) has a week's elf-catering at a three-star hotel in Ocho Rios for E599. Laughing Waters Beach



in Switzerland

■ On Her Majesty's Secret Service: Schilthorn: Mürren. Switzerland, Swiss Travel Service (01992-456123 offers a week's half-board at a three-star hotel for £475. Inghams (0181-780 4444) has a week's half-board at the

Latter-day heroes can test their skills at Engelberg

Edelweiss hotel for E344.

goes on general release on December II.

choice for the first of many times that James Bond was to get out his bucket and spade and get sand between his toes. Seeing it from the sea is apparently the best viewpoint for Laughing Waters Beach lucky, that, since it is now government-owned and visits

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North Cyprus offers a wealth of history to explore.

require special permission. The added bonus is that from the sea you can ignore (because it is out of sight) the hydro-electric power station that now profits from the

London on December 9 and

Landbound visitors have to satisfy themselves with James Bond beach eastwards along the coast. This popular area, owned as part of the Golden-Eve estate by the Island Out-post resort and especially popular with cruise-ship daytrippers, is half a mile closer to Oracabessa than Ian Fleming's beachfront house, after which the film Golden-Eye was named. The house is owned by Chris Blackwell of Island Records but is available for rent (from a mere \$21,000 a week) through Island Outpost (0800 614790). as are a number of cheaper properties in Jamaica.

#### **ULTIMATE CLIFFHANGER**

For Your Eyes Only. Variaam Monastery.

Meteora diffs. Kalambaka, central Greece AROUND AD 985, when the first hermit saw the 60 or so towering, isolated sandstone columns that make up the region of Meteora (from the Greek for "middle of the air"). the fact that he did not have any of O's gadgets did not stop him clambering 300m up one of the eroded stacks. Nor did it deter more than a dozen subsequent arrivals, who eventually transformed about 24 of these staggering natural rock stacks into airy monasteries.

one of the six still remaining: 88B at Meridien Beach Plaza, a four-star hotel in Monte the Varlaam Monastery, in its "St Cyril's" guise as baddie Carlo, for £262 — including a Kristatos's den of trampolinhelicopter transfer from Nice Airport to Monte Carlo. Cresta Holidays (0161 926 ing vice. The monks took exception to the film crews and 999) has two-night's B&B at tried to spoil close-up shots by Hotel Abela, a three-star hanging out clothes lines loadhotel in Monte Carlo. for £311: ed with their washing. Despite this ecclesiastical a week costs £482. The new Bond film. Tomorrow Never Dies, will have its premiere in

interference, the rock-climbing scene alone is nearly ten minutes of nail-biting tension. as a hammy Roger Moore positively furrows his brow, intercut with shots of his stuntdouble dangling from a rope not once but four times.

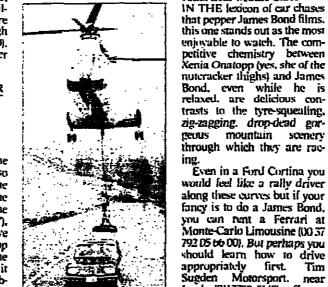
first ascent, James Bond

turned up to sling his hook at

Nowadays, we ordinary visitors ascend the easy way but still panting — up the spiral staircase carved into the rock in the 1920s. Built in 1518, the Varlaam Monastery is perhaps the richest of the Meteora sites in works of art. with some fine loth-century frescoes and friezes, but none of the stained-glass, woodpanelled splendour of the stage-set interiors so well smashed up by Bond & Co. Varlaam is closed on Fridays, and opening times on the other sites differ. An entire

circuit of all six monasteries is

about 20km and takes almost





six hours by foot. The monas-

tic dress code is strictly enforced: men must wear long

trousers, women must wear

below-the-kneee skirts and

There are no hotels in

Meteora but the nearby vil-

lage of Kastraki has several good places, including the pleasantly eccentric Kastraki

Hotel (0030 432 22 286). Hotel

Meteora, a few miles away at Kalambaka, is exceptional but

heavily booked (0030 432 22

**ULTIMATE CAR CHASE** 

Golden Eye: the Corniche

road, near Monte Carlo

this one stands out as the most

enjoyable to watch. The competitive chemistry between

trasts to the tyre-squealing,

zig-zagging, drop-dead gor-

geous mountain scenery

through which they are rac-

Even in a Ford Cortina you

would feel like a rally driver

along these curves but if your

Monte-Carlo Limousine (X) 37

both must cover their arms.

the skills of evasive driving, or throw in some gun-shooting, speedboating or helicoptering role-play as well - then take home the video to show your family that you, too, can behave like 007. Aimed at their usual corporate clients, group-based prices start from £150 per person. Or call the ation (01753 681736) for the

#### **ULTIMATE LOVE SHACK**

From Russia With Love: the Orient Express from

nearest driving courses.

WITH A Lektor decoding device under one arm and Tatiana, a seduced Smersh agent, under the other, Bond used the Orient Express to leave Istanbul for London. Along the way he had a vicious in-carriage fight with Robert Shaw's ruthless killer and a couple more love scenes with Tanana. which confirmed his reputation as the screen's most polished lover and the reputation of the Orient Express as one of the world's most romantic trains. And that was before the refurbishment, completed in 1982: the cars seen in the film are identical to the cars now used by the staff, not the sumptuous blue-and-gold cars slept in by today's travellers.

792 05 to 00). But perhaps you Next year, Bond's route from (and to) Istanbul will be should learn how to drive appropriately first. Tim Sugden Motorsport. near relaunched; taking the train, Leeds (0113252 5145), offers a for the first time since 1962, in selection of James Bond the original luxury and on its Action Days: learn how to original 1883 route through slide spin and crash cars or Romania and Hungary.

was this route that inspired the train's reputation for mystery, romance, murder and intrigue. And this, plus the inspiration of a luxury train crossing six frontiers, resulted in those Agatha Christie films, 19 books and one piece of sheet music. With its reintroduction to Istanbul — the Byzantine spirit at its best here - the romantic legacy of James

Bond rides again on the

Orient Express. A return trip from Paris can be yours for £2,785 (0171-805 5100).

**ULTIMATE MOUNTAIN** 

On Her Majesty's Secret Switzerland LOVE OR hate George

Lazenby as the ill-omened firs successor to Sean Conner Continued on page 2



0181-6887555 PRESIDENT





Dr No: Ursula Andress and Sean Connery on Laughing Waters Beach, on the north coast of Jamaica; it is now owned by the Government

HALLIZES

\*\*\* \$ \$ \$ -1

#### JAMES BOND: A WEEKEND GUIDE

## Spy who loved London

York Membery maps out

the agent's favourite haunts and locations

as there ever been a jetsetting secret agent like James Bond? In his first film, Dr. No. he headed for the Caribbean. In From Russia With Love, he visited just about everywhere but the USSR. And in GoldenEye he touched down in Monte Carlo, the former Sovier Union and the Caribbean — again.

Yet as soon as he has thwarted another madman bent on world domination — and seduced the obligatory blonde — he returns to London.

Any tour of London in 007's footsteps has to start

Any tour of London in 007's footsteps has to start in Chelsea, the secret agent's spiritual home — and coincidentally home to his creator. Ian Fleming. The former Reuters journalist and naval intelligence officer put the finishing touches to the first 007 novel, Casino Royale — "the thriller to end all thrillers" that he set out to write in 1952 — at Carlyle Mansions, with its glorious views of the River Thames, in Cheyne Walk.

The grant any himself "fixed in a completable of the contraction of the co

The suave spy himself "fived in a comfortable ground-floor flat in a converted Regency house in a square off the King's Road", according to Fleming, who adds: "Parked under the plane trees was his 1930 four-and-a-half litre supercharged Bentley coupé, which he kept expertly runed so he could do a hundred when he wanted to." Not in today's Chelsea, though, that's for sure.

But which square? The mystery has had Bond boffins racking their brains for years but most now agree that Markham Square, a leafy enclave off the King's Road lined by Georgian-style terraces, about ten minutes walk from Carlyle Mansions, is the likely real-life model for 007's fictional residence.

Cominue to Sloane Square, and take the Underground two stops east to Pimlico. Just around the corner is Vauxhall Bridge, which offers a superb view of MI6's striking £150-million sandstone and green glass headquarters south of the Thames. The Terry Farrell-designed structure is where Pierce Brosnan's Bond was branded "a sexist, misogynist dinosaur" by Judi Dench's M in GoldenEye.

Cross the bridge and, if you're feeling particularly plucky, press the intercom and ask whether the building is indeed MI6's headquarters. Don't be surprised, though, if your inquiry is met by a frosty silence. Though one look at the building, which has more cameras on its walls than a Hollywood studio, should tell you this ain't no ordinary office block.

alk along the Albert Embankment to Lambeth Bridge and make for Dean Bradley Street on its north side, midway between Smith Square and Horseferry Road. Here you will find the Marquis of Granby, the public house where Bond's 007 code number was dreamt up — inspired by a chance conversation between Fleming and a drinking partner who had been given the number DMZ 7 when he was recruited into the Bevin Boys in the war. Outside the hostelry is a sign boasting that it serves "the perfect G&T" — but shouldn't it be

bragging about its vodka martini?

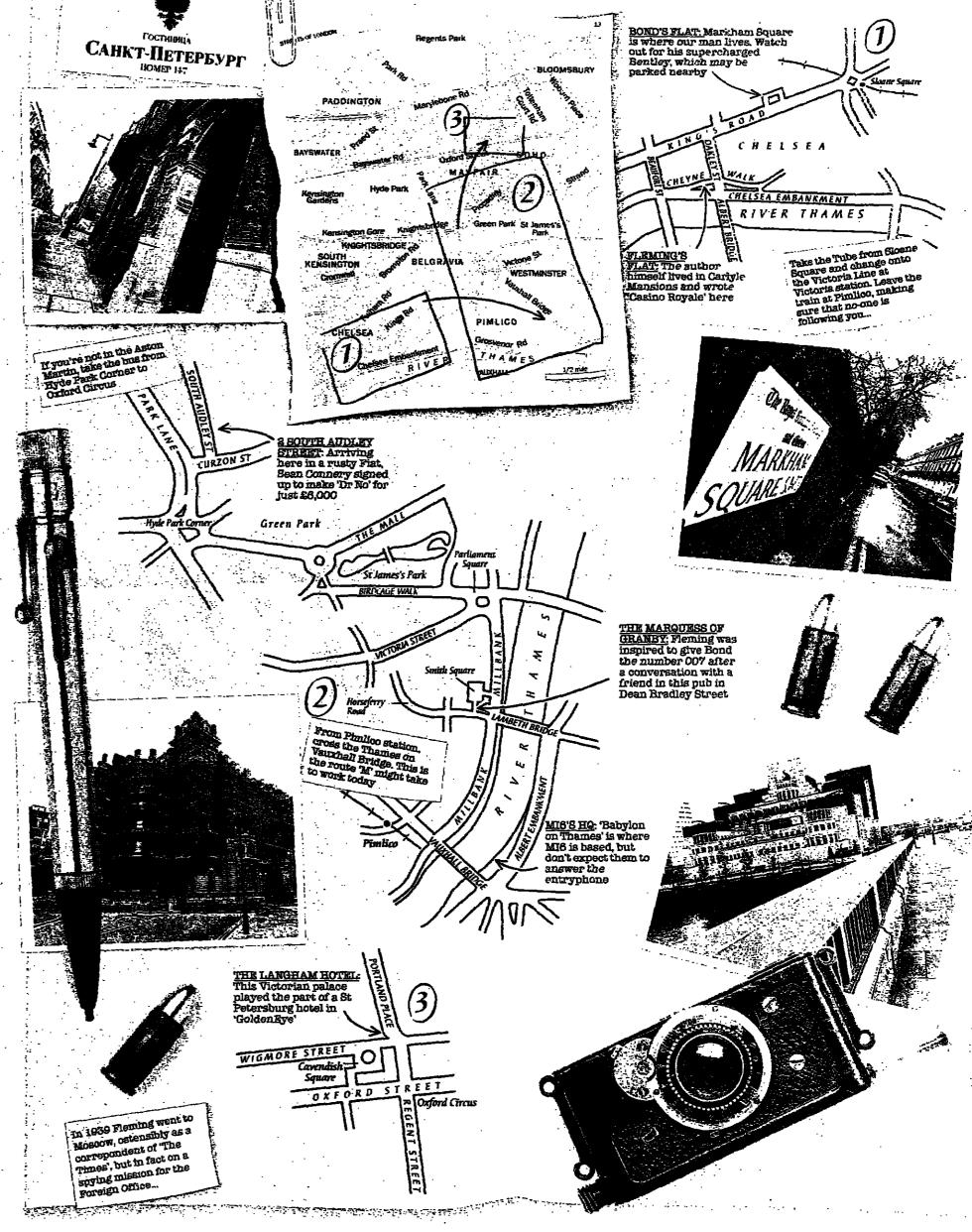
The West End yields a further Bond link: head up Millbank to Parliament Square, cut through St James's Park and Green Park to Hyde Park Corner, walk down Curzon Street and turn left into South Audley Street. In 1961, Sean Connery, then a struggling Scottish actor, pulled up outside the offices of Eon Productions, at 2 South Audley St, in a paltry £6,000—nowadays not enough to buy a Fiat, let alone an Aston Martin.

Finally, take a bus from Hyde Park Corner to Oxford Circus. A few minutes walk north is the elegant Langham Hotel, dating back to 1865. Opened by the Prince of Wales and once the height of Victorian chir, it doubled up for a St Petersburg hotel in GoldenEye — the producers simply replacing the Union lack, Stars and Stripes and European Union flags with a Pursian Endergring standard.

in GoldenEye — the producers simply replacing the Union lack, Stars and Stripes and European Union flags with a Russian Federation standard. If the next 007 film, Tomorrow Never Dies, does anywhere near as well as GoldenEye, Bond's London could soon become as big a hit with tourists as Sherlock Holmes's London. Even if he remains

the spy world's leading jetsetter.

• Pierce Brosnan: The Biography, by York Membery, is published by Virgin, at £5.99



Continued from page 25 (apparently, Diana Rigg used to eat garlic before her love scenes with Lazenby), James Bond's ski scenes in this film set the tone for the ski bonanzas in The Spy Who Loved Me and A View to a Kill.

Most dramatic of all was the moonlight fift from the mountain eyrie of Blofeld (played by Telly Savalas) at Schilthorn, a year after it was built as a real-life summit-house in 1967. Blessed with a panorama of more than 200 mountain peaks, a giddying hour-long cable-car ride (from the bottom of the valley) and a summit of nearly 3,000m which towers over any cloud on a foggy day, the Schilthorn was the perfect hangout for any megalomaniac bent on

world domination.

Nowadays, with the imitation blood trails washed away, the fake bodies left in Bond's wake resurrected and the helicopter landing pad transformed into a sun terrace, the Schilthorn is a 360-degree revolving panoramic restaurant catering for more than 400 skiers in the winter and vista-seeking hikers in the summer.

Visitors come up from interlaken, the mountain village of Gimmelwald or the carfree ski resort of Mürren.
On backweather days a ten-

car-free ski resort of Mürren.
On bad-weather days, a tenminuse video — scenes from
the film — revives memories of
James Bond's adventures on
this particular mountain; or
why not just pack away a
Martini or three in the James
Bond Bar?

WHERE DO I START?
The cars, the films, the
WEBWORLD: JAMES BOND

The cars, the films, the actors: they're all detailed on http://pages.prodigy.com/bond/movies.html while http:// shiftcontrol.com/archive/special/bond/plug-bondfiles.html is a British-written brief summary of the leading actors and best bits of all the Bond films. http://www.TomorrowNeverDies.com is the homepage of the upcoming Bond,

with pictures and news bulletins.

KER-CHING! THE BEST DEAL

Shop at http://www.viamail.

com/hollywoodnes/bond.html for Tshurts, mugs and caps on the largest movie

shirts, mugs and caps on the largest movie merchandise site on the Web. http://www.mgmua.com/bond/home.html is the official James Bond homepage: scorned by true Bondophiles (beware the daily quote takes five to ten minutes to download) but packed with merchandising: like the CD-Rom: "The Ultimate James Bond. An Interactive Dossier." Those with expanding Wallets can visit http://www.jetsetonthener.com/main/html/introduction.html for Ferraris, high-tech goodies and the chance to rent your own Bahamian island.

TRAVELLER'S TALES:
http://www.wolfe.net/
hmss007/ has the
Greatest Fan's site, Kimberley Last's, and
and has links to the Ultimate Collection of
Fan Pages, like Club James Bond.

MUGGING-UP
With over 200,000 sites, the Internet really is your virtual oyster for James Bond fans. 
http://www.concentric.net/Volante/ is a good place to start, with comprehensive links to all things 007-ish. www.moviehq.com/reviews/index.htm contains short reviews: start here at Diamonds Are Forever, then link through to the entire lexicon. The

randomly named http://poky.srv.net/ duncan/007info.html is a smorgasbord of

Bondiana, including a card game.

"WELL I NEVER!"

At http://www.universalexports.net/ find out that Burt Reynolds could have been ... and more. Be shaken, not stirred by lan Fleming's Martini recipe at

http://www.axionet.com/key/recipe4.html
SUSANNAH JOWITT

#### ULTIMATE DIVE

Thunderball: the underwater fight scene: the "Bond wreck" at the western end of the Clifton Pier, Nassau, the

Bahamas
OUT OF the five James Bond
movies filmed in this "Underwater Hollywood" corner of
the Bahamas (the first ever
deep-sea film, the original
20.000 Leagues Under the
Sea, was filmed here), it is the
underwater fight sequence in
Thunderball that has fans
reaching for their respirators
every time.

To film these and the other underwater scenes took lour months and involved the intricate building of a fibreglass and scaffolding life-size model of a Vulcan bomber plane.

Thirry years later, most of the fibreglass has gone but the plane, with its landing gear and rubber tyres miraculously intact, is now a colourful riot of sea fans, soft sponges and corals, peopled by angel fish, grouper and other tropical sea creatures.

reatures.

With the remake of 
Thunderball — Never Say 
Never Again — the Bond team, 
including the diving veteran

or 10. Second-rate

Copycat quiz. £19,99.

Sean Connery (Roger Moore never even turned up for the scuba scenes filmed here for For Your Eyes Only), sank another wreck, that of the Tears of Allah boat.

These coral-infested relics make up the "Bond wreck"— a popular diving site at Clifton Pier, west of Nassau, on the tax-free, gambler-friendly island of New Providence.

This trip is offered by com-

panies such as Stuart's Cove (001 242 362 4171) as part of a two-dive package. For \$65, you get to be James Bond, then go further afield to "The Wall", where the shallow seabed,

barely 15m deep, suddenly falls away to an abyss of

Now that sounds considerably scarier than a few underwater hoodlums giving our James a bit of a hard time.

#### ULTIMATE HIDEOUT

The Man with the Golden Gun: James Bond Island, Phang Nga Bay. Phuket, Thailand HUGE limestone cliffs and weird rock formations jut out of a turquoise sea as Christopher Lee tries to outwit James Bond in this

most surreal and spectacular of all the Bond film locations.

Pictures by Gill Allen, Hand-held KGB surveillance camera courtesy of H. Keith Melton, author of The Ultimate Spy Book, published by Dorling Kindersley, £16 99. Propelling pencil pistol courtesy of the Imperial War Museum

Huge solar panels leap out of the towering island opposite and speedboats and planes sfalom in and out of the countless rocky steeples in Phang Nga Bay, near Phuket in Thailand. It is a scenario re-enacted in the forthcoming Tomorrow Never Dies as Pierce Brosnan and sidekick race to find

baddie Carver's Stealth boat.
The reality is just as impressive, although James Bond Island (as the locals affectionately call it) is rather smaller than you imagine from the scale that is presented in The Man With the Golden Gun.

Nevertheless, the sheer number of dramatically proportioned islands is staggering. All are precipitous

— although only a few have the pearl-dust sandy beaches of James Bond Island - and all are topped by an untidy green fringe of clinging tropical vegetation.

And, for all its imagined remoteness, the bay is a mere hop and a skip from mainstream tourist haunt Phuket, just up the coast. Some might prefer the backpacker simplicity of staying at the Muslim fishing village of Kopanyi, attached to one of the Phang

Nga islands.
Everything is on stilts, even the football pitch: if a ball is kicked over the goal line, the goalie has to dive into the sea to retrieve it...

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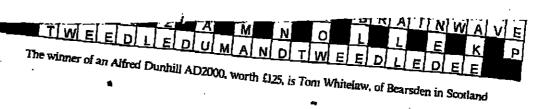
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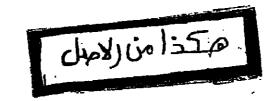
The Travel Collection.

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Deepdene House. Dosking, Susrey RHS 4AZ.





Village square in Whistler, British Columbia, where the glacier slopes will definitely be white for the holiday season. Spend a luxury Christmas week here followed by the new year week in Hawaii for a £2,565 per person

## We all dream of a white Christmas



Downhill all the way: Ste-Foy, near Val d'Isère, is a good place to learn to ski off-piste

GETTING away over the jolly is to go off like a Christmas cracker. This winter is difficult because the phenomenal boom in the skiing market is already exhausting capacity. Many firms report bookings running 100 to 500 per cent ahead of last year. There is little accommodation left for the new year week, although Christmas is selling a

bit more slowly.

This year, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Eve and the morning after all fall outside the package turn-over days of Saturday and Sunday, which means nobody will be forced to travel on the most

important days of the holiday season. Still, the dream of a white Christmas means that almost every resort in the Alps and America will be crammed to the rafters. At no other time of the year are pistes more crowded. The dilemma for keen skiers is where - at any price and any distance snow quality can be guaranteed and



DOUG SAGER

rueueing will be at a minimum Families with small children, hideaway away from the crowds all face problems finding a holiday tailored to their

In recent years, a number of holiday firms and so-called independent consultants have made a speciality of advising those who do not fit into the typical package ski holiday.

I faxed 20 such firms requesting suggestions for snowboarders, for families, for escapists and for those for whom money is no object. Some firms responded within minutes, notably Snow Line, Ski Weekend and Erna Low.

Perhaps an indication of just how good business is this season, is that five of the better known specialists had not bothered to respond within a week.

From the firms which submitted specific offers, I have chosen the most unusual and interesting. All were available at the time of going to press.

A classic tour of the Middle

Kingdom with the number one

expert and specialists

#### AFFORDABLE FOR FAMILIES

PERHAPS the simplest way to avoid expense and overcrowding is not to stay in a resort at all. Bourg-St-Maurice is a French market town with no frills but it does have a TGV railway station (a terminus for the Eurostar) and it lies in the heart of the Tarentaise, home to the Trois Vallées, La Plagne and Val d'Isère. For everyday

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Apr 8, 15, 22, 23 2450 750
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Aug 5, 19, 26 2450 750
Sep 2, 16, 23, 30 2495 795
Oct 7, 14, 21 2495 750
Oct 28 2395 750

of China

Les Arcs can be reached directly from town within seven minutes via Bourg-St-Maurice's modern funicular. Erna Low (0171-584 2841) is offering the best budget deal I have found: a self-drive package with bed-and-breakfast accommodation at the English-run Petite Auberge. De-cember 20-27, für £170 per person, ferry included.

For a more in-depth study of French rural life, and the Alpine cable car with the

22 days in Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Suzhou, Zhouzhuang,

Hangzhou, Chongqing, the Yangtze River, Wuhan,

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especially as present plans for the Yangtze River is destined to

change the surrounding landscape forever. This tour gives you

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unique imperial style, "SS Splendid China" offers luxurious

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the landscape. To us China is home and we take pride in being able to show you

aspects of China beyond the reach of more conventional tours. This is a richly

rewarding tour which is sure to be a once in a lifetime experience.

shortest queues, Vaujany is an excellent family choice, both for the intermediate slopes just above the village and for its cable car, which rises directly into the extensive skiing of Alpe d'Huez Ski Peak (01252-794941), the only British operator in Vaujany and highly rated for family values, has Christmas week (December 20-27) availability in its Chalet Rostaing at £558, including

chalets. Morzine in the Portes du Soleil has toy trains which shunde children to the lifts. Ski Esprit has money-back guarantees for its nursery services and for ski-school tuition. Chalet Catherine has a nursery in the chalet. Ski Esprit flights and half-board. (01252-616 789) is offering Ski Esprit is the firm which, children under 18 half-price and their own separate rooms

half-board during the week in my view, best puts parents on the piste with peace of December 21-28. Young children have been mind, offering the most professional childcare, the best guarantees and non-smoking

known to refuse to go on Christmas skiing holidays, afraid they will miss Santa. That will not happen with the Christmas offer suggested by both Snow Line and Skiers Travel Bureau. Kids can visit the saint at home at "Santa's favourite ski resort": Levi in Lappland. Ice fishing, husky dog and reindeer safaris should help to keep everyone interested, and snow is when booking with parents, paying £489 for flights and Snow Line (01858-433 633)

That time of year again: Father Christmas takes to the slopes with some young fans and Skiers Travel Bureau

(01132 666876) offer Hotel Sir-

kantahti in Levi, Finland, Dec-

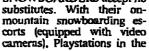
ember 21-28 for a total price of

£1,559 (for two adults plus one

child) including half-board

and flights, with free ski-hire and ski-passes for children

under seven. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS SNOWBOARDERS accept no substitutes. With their on-



#### It's all a question of vertical drops

ALTHOUGH the Alps are still waiting for snow. American ski resorts open this weekend for Thanksgiving, traditionally the first big skiing vacation of the year.

Doug Sager writes. Vail Resorts has just announced that all ski passes purchased at Vail will cover five resorts. Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge and Keystone, all owned by Vail Resorts, were the four that were previously included. Now the separately owned Arapahoe Basin has been added to the ticket.

Aspen Skiing Company apparently retains its num ber one title in the United States, after a period of confusion between the various resort areas over which is the highest and longest.

Construction this season of a new drag lift into the Cirque area at Snowmass, one of four resorts owned by the Aspen Skiing Company. prompted the Aspen conglomerate to launch a public relations campaign boasting both the longest vertical



Go for it snowboarding

drop - 4.406ft - and the highest, lift-served skiing terrain at 12.510ft.

Jackson Hole continues to advertise itself in press material as having the longest continuous vertical drop (4.139ft), but this claim is denied by Aspen Skiing Corporation. Big Sky in Montana has a longer verti-cal drop than Jackson Hole. at 4,180ft, but admits that this length cannot be skied in one descent, an additional chairlift being required for the lowest portion of the pistes.

Earlier this week, Aspen Skiing Company informed me that it had "made a mistake" and was withdrawing its claim to the highest skiing. Brecken-ridge advertises skiing at 12,998ft. Loveland puts its top skiing at 13,010ft. And Arapahoe Basin claims skiing at 13,050ft.

However, upon closer examination of piste maps it appears that all these Colorado resorts require hiking on foot beyond the lift systems to access these peak arcas. Snowmass's Cirque lift will carry skiers all the way up to 12,510ft without walking, and this lift is scheduled to run at least 60

days during the season.
"So, I guess that puts us back at the top after all, for highest lift-served skiing. At least. I think so," was the final word on the subject from the Aspen Skiing Company,



chalets and Burton boots, boards and bindings all available for test. Chalet Snowcent of guests are aged over 30). Chalet Snowboard (01235-767 575) has accommodation in Morzine and Avoriaz, December 20-27, at £425 includ-

ing flights and half-board. Romantic couples looking to hide away from the pistes in luxury are in luck. Tailormade specialist Momentum Travel has found a four-star hotel — indoor pool, sauna and each room furnished with antiques -- in Cogne, a village on the Sant'Orso snowfields below Italy's Gran Paradiso national park. It is only two hours from Geneva or Turin and the hotel owner will pick you up in his 1920s limousine. Downhill skiing is limited but the area is a cross-country paradise. Momentum (0171-371 9111) quotes a seven-day package including flights, car hire and half-board for £899

per person. Learning to ski off piste could not be less of a strain, staying at what I regard as the loveliest chalet in the Alps. and being taught by two inhouse guides from the famous Zimmer brothers' Top Ski centre. Ste-Foy is near Val d'Isère, but the hamlet has huge and easy off-piste sectors unvisited by experts. Yellowstone chalet is a new residence featured this season by The Ski Company (0171-730 9600). Christmas week (December 21-28) is available at £1,687 per person including flights, meals, guides and Christmas

dinner. Single and looking to ski with somebody serious? The weekend and off-niste specialist Ski Weekend has put together Christmas and new year packages with the best skiing in the Alps. The last Swissair flights (2pm) on ei-ther December 24 or 31 have you in Chamonix two-and-a-half hours later. Four days of skiing follow: with an intro-duction to off-piste skiing by Chamonix master guide Ro-land Stieger preceding helicopter skiing, descents of couloirs like the Pas de Chevre or expeditions down the scenic Vallee Blanche, according to conditions and ability levels. Business-class return has you back in London on Monday

evening (8.45pm). The Ski Weekend (01367-241 636) price hotel accommodation and

#### EXCLUSIVE TO SERVICE T

FOR A twist on the white Christmas theme. Ski the American Dream proposes the guaranteed white glacier slopes of Whistler in Canada for Christmas, followed by the white sands of Hawaii for the new year. Though Ski the American Dream neglects to note it, there is snow skiing in Hawaii, although you have to climb a volcano first.

Ski the American Dream (0181-552 1201) has availability for its December 20-January 5 package excluding meals, with seven nights at Chateau Whistler and nine at the Halekulani on Waikiki beach, all transfers and flights, at £2,565 per person.

Cowboy Christmas at your

own private ranch outside Crested Butte, Colorado, includes horse riding and snow-mobiling. The food and accommodation are at the top of the range but the ranch is strictly no smoking. Crested Butte's nearby skiing is good for all abilities, and lifts are half-price for Buckhorn guests. Ski Equipe (0161-440 0010) has availability for seven, ten and 14-day packages departing on December 20 or 27, from £1,095 to £1,595 per person for flights and some evening meals. However, for me there is

only one choice for the serious skier over the holiday period, and that is helicopter skiing in Canada. James Orris offering the ultimate powder playground: 1,000 square miles of wilderness to be shared by only one private group. Although not normally operating this early in the season, Crescent Spur in northern British Columbia will open its luxury lodge and fire up the helicopter for any select group of between eight and 14 skiers. James Orr (0171-580 7883) bases prices on a Sunday to Saturday package including meals and guiding and a minimum 60.000ft of skiing at El,680 per person but not including flights from Britain.

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#### SKI WEEKEND: TAKING THE CHILDREN

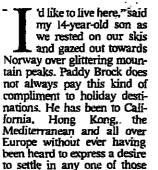


## Sweden's well-kept secret

iristmas

George Brock and his family warm to the friendly, uncrowded,

albeit cold, resort of Are



But Paddy, in common with Sweden. If you tell people that you are off to ski in Sweden. they simply look puzzled and assume that you have muddled your Scandinavians and actually mean that you are going to Norway. Or they think you are going just to ski cross-country. But the mountain range which runs down Norway also stretches across the border here and there. Nestling self-effacingly halfway up Sweden are a cluster of downhill resorts barely known to British skiers.

The secret remains wellkept for obvious reasons: Swedish winter sports are reckoned to be cold, dark and

Christmas cheer



expensive. Two Swedish resorts occupy exactly four pages brochure from Crystal, one of only two big British tour operators who bother with the downhill skiing in Sweden. Direct charter flights to Ostersund, the convenient airport, only begin this year; we had to change planes in

You cannot take as cheap a skiing holiday in Sweden as you can in the French Alps. I think that Sweden's extra advantages outweigh the cost but you should assume, as a rule of thumb, that Swedish skiing will cost you 20 per cent more all round.

And the weather can be painfully cold. We went late in

-7C, in March -3.8C.

www.arefiall.se

the season but still experi-enced two days (out of six) when the wind cut the visibility to a few yards on all but a fraction of the mountain. You do not see many slinky ski suits on Swedish pistes; your fellow skiers dress for Arctic

weather in awesomely chunky anoraks and woolly hats. And your fellow skiers are almost all Swedes. After the ldentikit facilities and decor of the multinational mass resorts in the Alps, the Swedish resort of Are never let us forget that country.

Our apartment-hotel was on the edge of a village. A handsome horse strolled and grazed in the snowy field behind the hotel. Small, wellwrapped schoolchildren skied to school past our back windows; their smaller brothers and sisters came by in pushchairs on skis.

So unaccustomed are they to foreign visitors in Are (pronounced "aura") that many signs carry no language but Swedish. It's not a problem: almost everybody speaks some English.

Courtesy comes as standard in rural Scandinavia. When

FACT FILE

■ George Brock travelled with Crystal Holidays (0181-399

5144) to Are. Besides skiing packages for the adventurous in Slovenia, Georgia and Bulgaria, Crystal also operates to

Sweden's largest ski area, Sālen. A seven-day stay in a four-bed apartment in the Hotel Renen costs £459 per person in

■ Are has 89 runs, totalling 82km. Despite being so far north, they use man-made snow on 20 of those pistes. There are 70km of cross-country tracks. The village of Are is 400m

above sea level and the average temperature in February is

Are also offers husky sleigh rides, paragliding on the

frozen lake at the foot of the mountain, visits to a huge frozen waterfall, snow scooters, go-kart racing on studded tyres, ice climbing and night skiing. Are's website is

high season. Hire of skis, sticks and boots adds £83 per

skier; a six-day high season lift pass costs £105.

■ Website: www.erystalholidays.co.uk.

#### PADDY BROCK, 14

"ARE is quiet but brilliant: like a genius sitting at the ack of a class without saying a word. It is uncrowded but not at all dead. The ski school was like the resort small. They have good techniques for making one recognise and solve problems with one's skiing. When the weather is bad, it is impossible to see and hard on your face. The

path of the T-bar lifts and no track is left to ski in. On one lift, one couple in four fell off — often taking people behind them down as they went. There are lots of other things to do: huskysleighs, skidoos, reindeer sleighs and paragliding. The

snowboarders first appeared and threatened to disturb the calm, earnest discussions were held in each resort to defuse the threat of chaos on the slopes: snowboarders now have their own areas, and politically correct snowboarding is taught in the local

schools. The pistes available in Are would satisfy all but black-run skiers for a week. The runs are well looked after, long and uncrowded; the views into Norway are gorgeous. They have 70km of cross-country

To cap all this contentment. Sweden was revealed to me for the first time as a country of high-class cuisine. On a standard four-star hotel package, we ate meals each night which would cost £30 a head if served at a London brasserie. And during the day we were expertly taught by Tony Koning, the English-



Swedes tend to be more chunkily wrapped than Alpine skiers (above left), and while T-bars predominate on the slopes, redeeming features include uncrowded runs and superb views

reindeer sleigh sounds more dangerous than paragliding."

People used to mainland

Are has only a handful of chair lifts: most are T-bars. To Swedes, most of whom have skied for years, this is no problem: to the less experienced, it is a pain. The ski school is so unused to inexperienced adults that complete beginners have to spend their first morning hanging around without getting on skis until after lunch. Ski school in Are

But these are minor quibbles, and the skiing is anyway only part of the picture. One afternoon we went to visit a herd of reindeer which graze near the wooden huts built by the once nomadic Sami herdsmen. Close up, reindeer are





I could live here: Paddy Brock, left and brother Ollie on a sleigh ride

smaller and gentler than you

and more like small cows with

pale coats the colour of drink-

The next afternoon we took a sleigh ride pulled by teams of

ferociously energetic huskies.

We shot out of the pine trees

and swished across a frozen

lake lit by a pale setting sun.

g chocolate.

would expect: less like deer

born head of the local ski

European resorts or the United States will find things to irritate them. "If I could find the person who invented the Tbar drag lift, I'd shoot him." said Ollie as he dug himself and his skis out of the snow he had fallen into,

operates in the early afternoon and that's that



"HUSKY dogs look nothing like I expected them to. They look like big furry dogs who eat ordinary diets: the sleigh-pullers in Sweden are small but eat enough to kill a normal dog. Öne realises how different Swedish skiing is compared to the average French resort when you look back from the top of the slope: empty. Or when answering his mobile phone on the T-bar lift, or while skiing down a slope. In Are, everyone speaks English and is friendly. I was skiing along one day and by mistake left my pole behind. Four snowboarders behind me all had a go at picking it up. The fourth succeeded and handed it to me!"

**OLLIE BROCK, 12** 

The only much-touted loca attraction that none of us wanted to try was skiing at night. Are makes much of the many kilometres of downhill and cross-country pistes which are floodlit well into the evening. The locals claim that the lights shine so brightly on the mountainside that the national security agency in Washington once asked the Swedish government about the odd glow that was being picked up by the American spy

satellites.

But the idea of skiing in the evening leaves me cold. Or at least it would have left me very cold indeed if I had ever abandoned the cosy warmth of our apartment.

#### A Special Announcement 7 nights at the Coral Hilton Hotel on the Red Sea from just £315

I herecent opening of the 4-star Coral Hilton Hotel in Nuweiba and our flight from Gatwick to Ras el-Nakab make it possible for us to offer a relaxing 7-day sojourn in the winter sunshine of Nuweiba with the chance of participating in optional excursions to the Monastery of St Catherine and the Coloured Canyon.

Our in which are the control of the Coloured Canyon. Our journey commences with a flight from London Gatwick to Sinai and then a short drive from Ras el-Nakab to Nuweiba for a seven night stay at the Coral Hilton Resort on the Red Sea.

Set on a 7 kms sandy beach the Coral Hilton Resort includes a choice of restaurants, bars, shops and stening entertainment, swimming pool and a wide ariety of watersports. All 200 rooms are air-condi-tioned with private facilities.

The Monastery of St Catherine has attracted pilgrims since AD 337 when the Empress Helena, mother of Constantine, ordered the building of a sanctuary around the site of the Burning Bush. Its spectacular setting at the foot of Mt Sirai adds to the solitude and



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VOYAGESJULES VERNE

#### The ultimate blue water experience

We fancied the advertised

reindeer sleigh-ride as well but

when I wanted to book, the

mustard-keen man from Crys-

tal Holidays looked a little

queasy. "Er, I think the reindeer sleigh may be off," he said, explaining that a recent

trip had been abandoned

when the reindeer grew too

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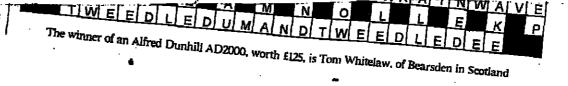
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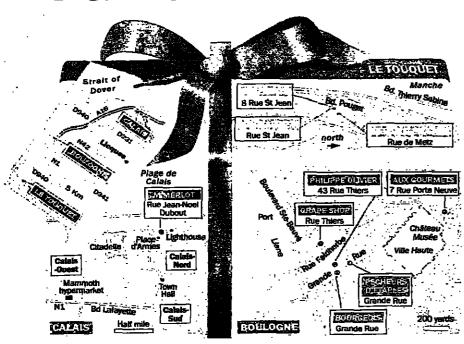




Shopping in France is cheaper, the selection is better and goods even come gift-wrapped, says Robin Young

Charcuterie

## It's time for that counter attack



TRY SOMETHING different this year: all you need is stamina and determination to brave Channel gales, booze-cruise companions and French shopping queues. The rewards are rich — you will able to treat family and friends to delicacies you might never afford, or in some cases be able to obtain, in Britain. And in France shop assistants will happily gift-wrap goods free of charge.

My big idea, first put into practice last year, was to take advantage of rock-bottom ferry fares and stock up with beer, wines and spirits and and just about anything else appropriate. It could not have worked better and friends and acquaintances were simply awestruck by the splendour of our Christmas arrangements.

CATCH AN early ferry.
The time saved in loading and unloading procedures is valuable, bearing in mind that however carry you set out it is already an hour later in France because of the time M

Weekender Plus

Leaving home in central London at 6am, I was in Calais on December 23 last year just before 10am local time. I drove straight to my favourite baker, M Merlot, in his modest shop at 10 Rue Jean-Noël Dubout, off the northeastern corner of Place d'Armes at the coastal (northern) end of town.

There is no point in buying French baguettes so early in the day. They are intended to

Hõligan

I bought large, unsliced pains de campagne (country loaves), pains aux olives (bread with olives) and pains aux noix (walnut bread). From good bakers these more durable French loaves will last up to a

patisseries were so tempting that I bought some of them, too, before heading the few miles inland from Calais to

Licques is to poultry in France rather as Norfolk is to turkeys in Britain. The little town has an annual turkey festival (this year on Decemher 13-14) and a regulation for high-quality chickens, ducks and geese. I had ordered a

been allowed to buy in England since 1973) in advance by ringing Licques Volailles on 3-35 80 03. To find the abattoir, turn right just before entering the town. The low-slung white building on the rise on the right-hand side is the one you want Collecting Merlot's cakes and and paying for my bird took

only minutes.

Monday mornings.

This was my plan of action:

The operation is profitable because all your

alcohol will be bought at duty-free or French (low duty) prices. Discounts on perfumes. tobacco, beauty products, cameras and watch-

es come as an optional bonus. But the real prize is the shopping that is available in and around Calais and Boulogne. I travelled alone

with a shop-till-you-drop attitude. Having other family members along can help to divide

the labour, but will involve discussions about

what and where to buy. Leading supermarkets

and hypermarkets in France open on only the

last three Sundays before Christmas, and all specialist food shops are likely to be closed on

> the vast Cité Europe shopping mall outside Calais (junctions 12 or 14 off the Al6). The hypermarket here is a Carrefour (not my favourite) so I preferred to park at the lower level close to the Porte de Belge, which provides quick access to the Cité's gastronomic shops. There is another

IT'S THE WEEKEND EVERY DAY!

Best in the Channel ports: the Charcuterie Bourgeois, I Grande Rue in Boulogne, is full of mouthwatering delicacies for a Christmas Eve feast ally the village baker from nearby Wierre Effroy, who had the good sense to open within the shopping centre. His bread from wood-fired ovens will not disappoint, and his neighbours include Tesco and Victoria Wine. The most catholic wine selections in the French Channel ports are available from the British wine retailers, who also include Sainsbury's linked to the Auchan (formerly Mammouth) hypermarket off the NI west of Calais and the

A quick whisk of best bargains from Tesco and Vic Wine saw me back on the motorway in less than half an

folidau

Snr?

booze alongside my fruit and veg. I had an untroubled 20minute drive to Boulogne, where I bought conserves, spices and other delicacies from the Hédiard range at Aux Gourmets, 7 Rue Porte Neuve, just outside the gates of the old town, and rewarded myself with lunch at Pecheurs d'Étaples in the Grande Rue (3-2) 30 29 29), one of several town-centre restaurants capable of providing a speedy

I stopped at the fish counter on the way out to buy a Grape Shop in Rue Thiers, pannier of oysters packed in wet seaweed. They will keep up to five days if the weather is cold enough, and I gave mine extra protection by packing with freezer blocks I had brought with me.

> A FEW doors down the street, at No I Grande Rue, is the Bourgeois charcuterie shop, the best in the Channel ports (3-21 31 53 57. phone and fax). Here I bought a Christmas Eve feast of choucroute garnie (pickled cabbage with five sorts of sausages and two cooked meats as gargantuan garnishes), Christmas breakfasts of andouillettes (tripe sausages), boudins noirs and boudins blanes (black puddings and poultry and veal sausages) and a generous tub full of the Christmas speciality rilletes d'oie (a kind of mashed goose). Other options this year will include cassoulet (stew of pork, poultry and beans), and petit sale aux lentilles (salt pork with lentils).

The next stop was essential for cheese-lovers, round the corner at No 43 Rue Thiers at the Fromagerie de Philippe Olivier (3-21 31 94 74, fax 3-21 30 76 57). By prior arrangement M Laurent, chef of the Relais de la Brocante at Wimille (3-21 83 19 31, fax 3-21 87 29 71), had left a meticulously prepared foie gras for collection here. (He was closed on December 23 last year.) He, or other local chefs, may still entertain a limited number of similar orders this year - or you can buy foie gras direct from producers in the immediate hinterland of Boulogne.
As for cheese, the Olivier **CHANNEL OFFERS** 

ه كذا من رلامهل

Wourgeois

240241) offers a day-trip to Boulogne at £18 for two people. The deal includes rail travel from a choice of 15 stations in London and the Southeast to Folkeston and then onwards to Boulo by Hoverspeed. The company also has E5 foot-passenger fares avail

on Dover-Calais and Folkestone-Boulogne. A car and five passengers by SuperSeaCat on Folkes logne costs E25 (£35 on Saturdays and bookings on day of travel): Hovercraft -Calais, £29 (£39 Saturdays and bookings on Daytrips for £10 are also available when taking the 7am SuperSeaCat departure

nn Dover on Friday or Saturday, These are valid for a car and five passengers. TENA LINE (0990 707070): Day-trippers on foot can travel Dover-Calais and Newhaven-Dieppe for £2; a car costs £15 and £2 per passenger. A £10 supplement

per car applies on Saturday with a FI supplement for foot passengers. This is valid until December 23. SEAFRANCE (0990 711711: Day-trip fares to Calais cost El for foot passengers every day. A car and driver costs El0 (which becomes £20 on Saturdays), extra

passengers are charged El each. This is valid until December 31. One night's B&B in Calais costs £39 (£49 on Saturdays) for two sharing a twin or double room, including ferry crossing from Dover, Valid until December 22.

P&O EUROPEAN FERRIES (0990 980980): Day-trip fares Dover-Calais: £2

shop staff are helpful about choosing a good selection and having them in the right state of readiness for consumption a stated number of days ahead. The Christmas cheese par excellence in France is the unctuously creamy Vacherin de Mont d'Or, so runny that it has to be eaten with a spoon and not the easiest to have in the peak of condition just

Ferry travel: speeding over the Channel to shop

for foot passengers, £25 for a car and up to nine people (£35 on Saturdays). A twoday fare costs £29 for a car and five passengers (with a £10 supplement applicable on Saurdays). You can book and pay 24 hours in advance. This is valid until

■ LE SHUTTLE (0990 353535): Day-trips, booked 24 hours in advance, available from Sunday to Friday for £29 for a car and all occupants (£39 on Saturday). Until December 31, one night's B&B in Calais or St Omer is £35 per person, including Channel Tunnel travel (travel after midday, return before 4pm the following day, book 24 hours in advance).

Steve Keenan

when required. I also bought Roquefort, Munster, Reblo-chon, Carnembert, Pont l'Eveque and a magnificently fruity Belfort - but there are more than 200 cheeses in the shop to choose from.

There is also butter with sea salt, whole milk yoghurts, tarte aux maroilles (local cheese tart), creme fraiche and walnut bread.

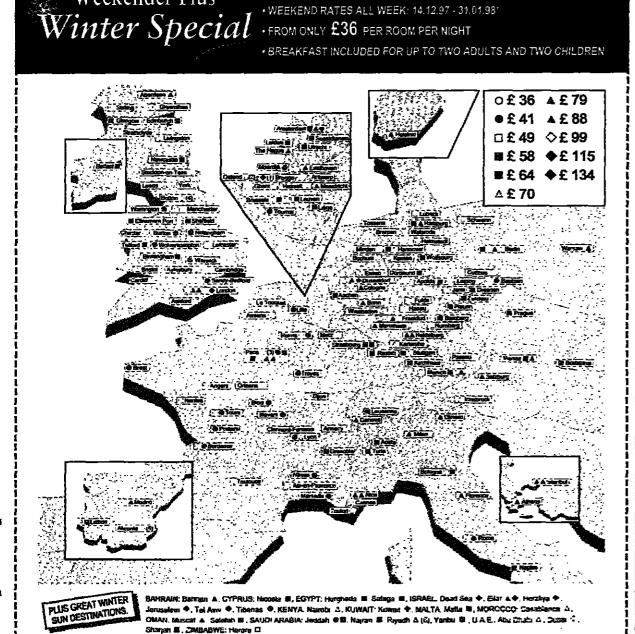
An alternative bakery to those already mentioned is Demarchez, just along the street at the junction with Rue Faidherbe. Last year I bought my French Christmas puddings, made with real plums here, before moving further along Rue Thiers to see what the Grape Shop had to offer.

THEN I realised that I still had enough time to make the run to Le Touquet where I know I could get the best cakes and chocolates available anywhere on the northern French coast. On the way out of Boulogne I even managed to stop at the Leclerc supermarket at Outreau - a good one for boxes of fine prices. Cheap champagne (from about Fr60 a bottle) and clarets from less good vintages such as 1993 or 1994 are especially recommended, plus 🕏 a few bottles of vin doux naturel such as Muscat de Rivesaltes, Frontignan or Beaumes-de-Venise to serve chilled as a Christmas aperitif.

In Le Touquet I managed to park immediately between two of my targets - the Lido Patisserie at the corner of Rues St Jean and Londres and the Au Chat Bleu chocolate shop. I spent a horrifying £90 in 15 minutes and then raced round the corner to the Pérard fish shop, restaurant and soup factory on Rue de Metz (3-21 05 13 33, fax 3-21 05 62 32) - for fish soups with accompanying jars of rouille (sweet-pepper mayonnaise).

It was dark. It was wet. It was cold. But I was happy. On the way back to the ferry terminal in Calais I pulled up in the Rue Royale to buy my wife a silk scarf and some Biotherm beauty products. (Christmas is not entirely about food.) I caught a slightly delayed 8pm sailing, and was at home in London by 10.30pm. We did not shop again until the new year.

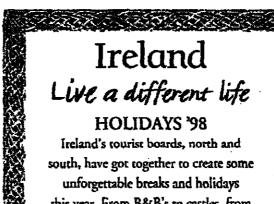
Other useful numbers: Calais advice line: 0181-348 0503 (9.30am-4.30pm, Monday to Saturday). Carrefour, Cité Europe, Calais (3-21 46 75 55). Auchan, Calais (3-21 46 92 92). Auchan, St Martin, Boulogne (3-21 10 11 12). Leclerc, Outreau Boulogne (3-21 10 28 28).



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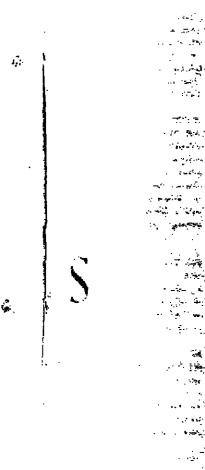
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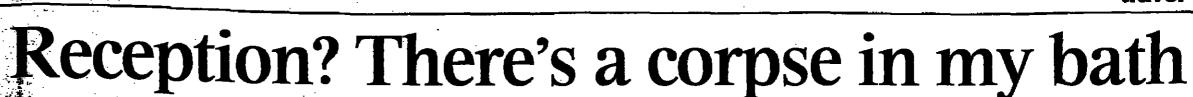
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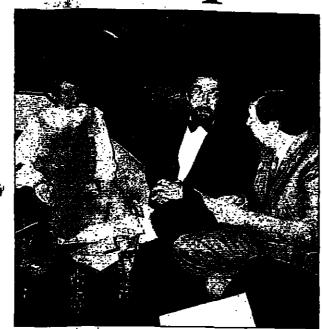






Robin Young





Would be sleuths compare notes and collect clues

Ivo Tennant dusts off his deerstalker as he joins the hunt for the killer

on a murder mystery weekend

well, rather diffrom the St Giles Music Appreciation Society to attend its annual convention at a hotel near Oxford to elect a new president.

In the event, far from discussing the merits of great concertos, the guests were to spend the entire weekend inestigating an even more taxng matter: a murder.

This occurred in the bath and, what was more, during dinner. It was not altogether a damned inconvenience.

There was a suspicion of ketchup about the blood, and the sleuth who materialised to try to solve the crime was more Hercule Poirot than a modern police chief-inspector.

The plot had been devised for a murder mystery weekend to tax the intellects of guests from far afield who were more interested in testing their skills of deduction than loafing

around a swimming pool.

The idea behind these weekends is that the guests arrive at the hotel in time for dinner on Friday. At some point that evening, a corpse is discovered. Then the fun begins. The guests examine the

scene and then spend much of

that evening and the following day looking for clues. Other actors appear and help the development of the plot, structured so that it cannot be solved before Sun-

a likely suspect may even

be bumped off on Saturday The identity of the murderer will be revealed before Sunday lunch and with any luck and ingenuity - it will have been guessed before then, by a guest or guests able to put

together the pieces of the puzzle. The actors, some professionals who are between mainstream jobs, others amateur, then reappear to discuss the

dastardly plot over the Sunday roast beef trolley. The only ketchup to be glimpsed at this point is of the edible variety, and the clientele depart in the afternoon to resume their more humdrum

A murder weekend is not everybody's idea of relaxation. Post-prandial tramping up and down fire escapes in pursuit of the whiff of cordite. followed by the examination of a body in a bath or an open

The close questioning of suspects is, even if this is merely a form of high jinks. not quite the same as mowing the lawn. It is a fantasy weekend for guests who are mostly middle class, of middling years and by no means

The Whodunnit Company, which organises entertainment all over the country for people who are brought together in a fictitious group such as the St Giles Society. once staged: a "horror

The company's proprietor. Edward Holden, insisted that all the guests should produce a certificate beforehand. "We staged a mass seance," he said, "and people became seriously spooked, so we haven't done it since. I was worried about what guests might do to themselves."

uch concerns are not ill-founded. another occasion. J guest was thought to be play-acting when in fact he was having an epileptic fit happily, he recovered.

And six years ago, the Algonquin Hotel in New York forgot to warn its normal guests that it was hosting a theme weekend. So when an actor ran through the lobby with a blazing gun, there was videspread panic.

The birthplace of the murder mystery weekend was Torquay, where Agatha Christie grew up, and in particular the Imperial Hotel. Now, they tend to be staged at three-star establishments, often in the

The first victim falls in Neil Simon's Murder by Death, a spoof of the murder mystery genre in which the dinner guests are all fictional detectives West Country. The Spread Eagle in Thame is a favourite location, partly because it allows the plot creators to introduce frogmen discovering bodies in the Isis, and partly because nearby Oxford is an

Nobody is actually required to turn their mind to solving a murder all weekend, but nonetheless, some do.

attractive venue for an

Mary Gleeson, an adult education lecturer from Amersham, was so excited a the prospect of her sixth murder weekend in seven years that she arrived four and a half hours early on the Friday.

She brought a selection of shoes "so that I have plenty of choice depending on the amount of running about 1 want to do". As she filled in her time by eating cream cakes, she explained its lasting appeal.

"It is much more fun than watching Agatha Christie on she said. The suspense keeps me going and the actors want us to have a good time.

"This is the sort of trip on which a woman can come on her own and get involved as much as she likes. I could not sit on a beach."

At her table at dinner, she was sitting with two German women from Frankfurt - "We find the English sense of humour very odd but we like - and a couple from Horsham in West Sussex who were participating because they prefer to chat to fellow guests and socialise rather

than sit on their own. "A theme weekend fills in a gap for corporate people who don't know what to talk about to each other." Holden said.

"Our actors have to come up with clever lines off the top of their heads. Some guests test us with questions - especially about dates. "One year there was a

daunting row of Cadbury executives and another time Oliver Reed came as a guest. In the morning, we saw him with shaving cream on his face, looking slightly the worse for wear, and then he disappeared for the rest of the

Holden sticks to a strict rule about "murdered" actors not re-emerging over the weekend except to take a bow on Sunday. Seeing a body rise from the dead in time for breakfast, as occurs with some companies, hardly adds to the authenticity "the show".

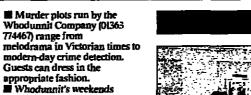
There are always the inevitable guests who giggle or who come up with a ready quip -- "I can't solve any murder mysteries until I go to the toiler - until they are quietened by the sight of the dreaded body. It does look realistic.

The acting is wholehearted and some weekends may involve seven or eight actors and so, for that matter, is the audience participation. One particular guest, who came in a wheelchair, insisted on being carried up and down the stairs in search of blood and gore and was ultimately even more exhausted than the actors

There is more than an element of competition among the guests to guess the murder-er, but Holden reckons that only about a third of the guests get it right.

This particular plot culminated in a shooting, another murder and an arrest. By noon on Sunday, the culprit was revealed by two guests able to congratulate themselves that they were a match for any Poirot.

For my part, I had suspected almost everyone else, including most of the members of the St Giles Music Appreciation Society. Somewhat chastened by the ingenuity of my fellow guests, I left the hotel and made my way back to reality.



nodation and Sunday lunch in three-star hotels. Pric range from £180-£195 per person. The author stayed at the Spread Eagle Hotel (01844 213661) at Thame in Oxfordshi ■ Forte Hotels (0345 543555) is among hotel chains running murder weekends, in which incident rooms" are set up. An event is planned every weekend and prices range from £185-£210 per person for two

nclude two nights' half-board

nights, dinner and B&B. The 1997-98 brochure is due out ■ Virgin Hotels (0800-716 919) also has murder week at the four-star Crathorne Hall Hotel in Crathorne, North

Yorkshire, from £190 — two nights' half-board nodation and bunch on Saturday included, based on

This is one of the great

Lawrence River

one of life's great travel

adventures. Travelling in specially

chartered carriages which have

been refurbished in the classic

art deco features, you can

colour schemes.

style of the filties with handsome

to date with air-conditioning, soft

experience the days of when the train was

king. These streamline stainless steel rail-

cars of the 1950's have been brought up

spacious seats with footrests and restful

■ Skills Motor Coaches (01623 633300) has trips including a one-night half-

#### POST MORTEM FACT FILE



Murder most foul, as guests start the weekend's work by discovering the victim

Jarvis Fairfield Manor Hotel in York departing on December 13 for £59, based or two sharing. Coaches various pick-up points. 8513) is offering murder mystery

lay trips from London to Brighton on the Orient Express Breakfast and a three-course lunch are included ■ HF Holidays (0181-905 9558) offers a weekend in March at Sedbergh in the Yorkshire Dales for £119.

Padwick & Ball #0181-367 6793) has a murder weekend in Abingdon on January 23 at £99 for two nights' half-hoard and another in Brighton on February 6 for £109. For more information call the British Tourist Authority (OIRI-846 9000).



On a knife edge: the victim always has to be realistic

#### Horror addicts can also get their fix on guided historic tours

SINCE early childhood I have suffered from what some might call an obsessional fear of Psychopaths. I decided to face up to my phobia — joining a Jack the Ripper tour of London, Joanna

I was among a group of 60-odd People: But none seemed Particulary strange. Most were American, but there was a significant English presence the majority also being less than 30.

Our guide was Steve, whose fantastic energy turned out to be the most territying part of the tour. He described the personal histories, last sightings and in gary detail, murders of the Ripper's five victims.

"It's supposed to be scary, not funny." complained adisgruntled walker. I was also initially disappointed: Steve's pitch was a cross between school trip and Panto, cajoling the crowd into choruses of "ooks" and "aahs", and describing one of the victims as a sort of Dick Van Dyke in a skirt".

\_,ذ ـ ?

Feel the chill on the street

The first recorded serial killer stalked East London in the late summer of 1888. Known as Jack the Ripper in reference to his gruesome habit of disemboweling his victims, his indentity, of course, remains

EAST LONDON is no longer a seething den of Victorian vice, and to the disappointment of some of my companions, most of the murder scenes have been pulled down and replaced by offices

and restaurants. Strolling through brightly lit streets surrounded by people is hardly terrifying, and I was glad that Steve didn't attempt to over-hype an already dra-

More murder mystery than psychotic sightseeing. The Ripper Walk is informative and surprisingly fun. After two hours walking the streets on a damp November night (with only the briefest break in the pub) the crowd was still gripped. But when we were left at Algate East underground station

to disappear back into the night, we were none the wiser to Jack's true identity. London Walks (0171-624 3978)

runs Jack The Ripper tours from Tower Hill Underground station daily at 7.20pm and at 3pm on Saturdays. A Classic Murders and Crimes tour of West London leaves Embankment Tube station at

6.30pm on Saturdays

Adults £4.50. students and

oensioners £3.50. Children under 15 by an adult.

● The Witchery Murder and Mystery Tox (0131-225 6745) offers tours of Edinburgh's Old form for S6, by appointment only.



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panoramic wrap-around windows. Delicious meals are served in the

the train and 11 nights in first class hotels and lodges. PRICES PER PERSON Prices based on double occupancy range from £1778 and from £2318

dining car and for more casual

dining there is the Cale Car. In

videos, games, magazines and

Three nights will be spent aboard

addition there is a bar and

newspapers are provided.

for single accommodation Price includes: Economy class air travel, accommodation and full board on the 'Canadian', accommodation in first class hotels on room only basis, half day excursions in Vancouver ( with lunch). Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal, Full day excursion with lunch to Niagura Falls and Victoria, transportation by luxury airconditioned coaches, porterage, tour manager, airport taxes. UK departure tax. Not included: Travel insurance, meals in hotels, gratuines. Executive First Air supplement (910 per person.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS Please telephone 0171-409 0376 If day a week during offer hours

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7 00E of 10 copycal quiz. £19.99 The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, is Tom Whitelaw, of Bearsden in Scotland

☐ ITALIAN culture vultures

will be in heaven this week Pavarotti is singing in Donizetti's L'elisir d'amore in Naples on Tuesday, Thursday and the following Wednesday (December 10), tickets from

£52; Stravinsky's L'oiseau de feu is playing in Florence on

Wednesday and Thursday, tickets for £20, and Verdi's

Rigoletto is being performed in Genoa on Saturday, tickets from £47. Tickets and B&B

accommodation at a selection

of three to five-star hotels

from £66 per twin room can

be arranged through Liaisons Abroad (0171 376 4020).

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2228) has 14 mights, three-star

accommodation only, at a

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per person. Return flights to

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☐ IF YOU are desperate to escape this December you

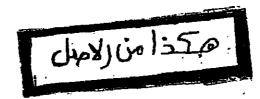
might consider Lunn Poly's

offer of flights only to Alicante for £99. Valid for 28 nights

and including departure tax,

on Tuesday, December 9.

Vallarta



With rice terraces under threat, Philippine tourists may have to help out, says Adam Easton

## Worms turn as wonder goes under

aue rice terraces in the Philippines, which are being destroyed by an unlikely agent - giant earthworms. The narrow terraces, dubbed the Eighth Wonder of the World by the country's Department of Tourism, at-

But in recent years, many of the once-stunning terraces have collapsed or become overgrown with weeds.

tract one million visitors

The origin of the worms, which can be 18in long, is uncertain, but they may have arrived when higher-yielding strains of rice were introduced to the area after the Second World War.

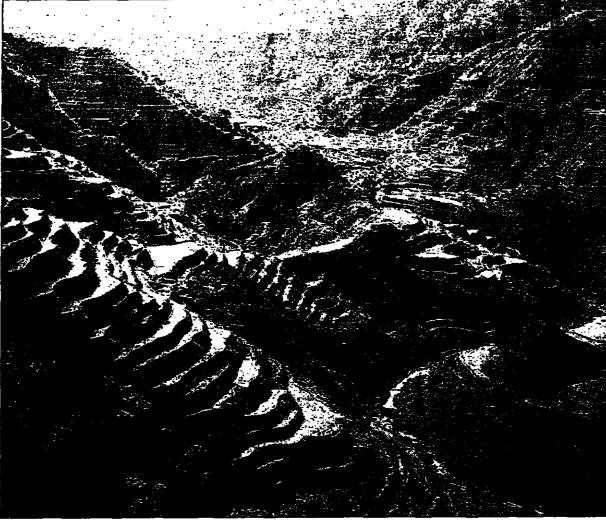
Christopher Pagadut, project development officer of the Rice Terraces Commission (RTC), said: The worms bore deep within the stone retaining walls of the terraces. producing an effect like a hole

rains come they wash away the soil, leading to the collapse of the wall and the terrace. It only takes a week of rains to 1,000-year-old

Commission workers have so far failed to find a cure. Banaue mayor Tito Candelario said: "Thirty years ago the grandeur of the rice terraces was magnificent. In 20 years we do not know."
 The RTC is helping to raise

cash to maintain the terraces. It encourages farmers to supplement their income through other crafts, and to cultivate more cash crops such as mushrooms and cabbages.

If this doesn't work, the Department of Tourism has considered introducing a fee for visitors. British tourist Jon Rogers said: "It would be a shame to have to pay, but if the scheme would help to maintain such an ancient



The Banaue rice terraces in the Philippines, an agricultural and visual spectacle, are gradually crumbling

SRI LANKA hopes to capitalise on British determination — and our abiding interest in tea and cricket - to boost its tourism trade, which has been badly hit by terrorism, Tony Dawe writes.

Many former colonies reject their British past, but Sri Lanka is planning to launch a "Discover British Ceylon" campaign next year that will focus on tea plantations, cricket fields, historical and cultural attractions and the gem and spice industries our ancestors nelped to create

Encouraged by the reluctance of many British holidaymakers to leave Luxor despite last week's horrific terrorist attack, the Sri Lankans are confident that their own difficulties will not deter British tourists either.

Their new campaign will, however, keep visitors away

#### Sri Lanka brews up target for

tourism

from the worst trouble spots including Colombo, the capital, where scores of people have died in bomb attacks in the last two years, and the northern strongholds of the Tamil Tigers liberation move-

Britons top the list of foreign tourists to Sri Lanka, with 50,000 out of a total of 300,000 travelling so far this year, but these figures have been static

"We have set a target of one

million visitors within the next

five years.
"We believe we can achieve that if we can convince people that Sri Lanka is sale for travel and safe for investment," Ranjith Perera, the tourist board director, said on a visit to London. "There is tremendous untapped potential in

Tea festivals and exhibition cricket matches are planned as part of the new campaign, but tourist officials are also keen to promote the country's golf courses and coastal Sri Lanka boasts spectacu-

lar shipwrecks and coral reefs. Its newest attraction is a wetland visitor centre, which includes a traditional fisherman's village, an exhibition on nature conservation, a herb garden and a shop full of

#### Fancy sailing the high seas?

Then join the crew of an 18thcentury square rigger sailing to the New World. You'll sleep in a hammock,

hoist the sails, scrub the decks and take the helm. If you are fit, don't suffer seasickness and dig deep in your pockets, a trip of a lifetime could come true. The £8-million replica of Captain Cook's Endeavour is preparing for an eight-week voyage to America in the new year. She will carry 35 ama-teur crew. 13 officers and

professional sailors and four passengers. Having finished a sevenmonth UK tour, the ship built in Australia using origi-

nal plans from the National

refitted at Whitby, North Yorkshire, where the first Endeavour was built in 1765.

The dockside and workshops are open to visitors until December 8. Sailmakers can be seen working the canvas, riggers splicing rope and seamen tarring the ratlines — the rope ladder steps between the rigging - all

using 18th-century methods. After repairs, visitors will be able to board Endeavour until December 14, when she leaves for dry dock in Hull. The ship leaves Hull on January 8 and departs for America six days later from Plymouth Stairs, from where Captain Cook set sail in the original Endeavour in 1768.

Endeavour's route to America – a voyage Cook never made — is via Tenerife. On the second leg it heads for St

Thomas in the Virgin Islands, then Nassau, before arriving at Palm Beach, Florida, on March 5. For crew members the voy age from Hull to Tenerife will cost £606. From The Canaries to Florida: £1,515. The whole

brin costs £1,787. Paying passengers will need to find £2,575 for the first leg: £8,030 for the second part. The fare for the whole trip is

RONALD GRIBBLE ● HM Bark Endeavour Foundation (0181-293 5522)

the flight departs from Birmingham on Thursday Visit your local Lunn Poly shop for details.

MORE than just a treaty: Holland's largest Christmas market begins at Maastricht on Saturday (December 6). (01992 456056) has two nights B&B at the Hotel Bergere from £175 per person. Return Eurostar from London to Maastricht is also included.

WANTING to polish up your technique before you hit the piste? Sheffield Ski Village (0114 276 8822) is offering Slope Off weekend breaks from E59 for one night and £99 for two nights, including B&B, eight hours' tuition, lift passes and equipment hire.

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THE SEE TIMES

## Still life prints only £4.25 each

o celebrate its Objects of Desire exhibition, the Hayward Gallery has created three beautiful prints exclusively for Times readers. These high-quality reproduction prints capture the excitement and variety of the modern still life as seen in the Hayward's groundbreaking exhibition — on until January 4 — organised by the Museum of Modern Art, New York. The three prints are from works by Carlo Carrà, Pablo Picasso and Max Beckmann and represent three important 20th-century masterpieces.

Each print measures approximately 420 x 594mm with a border and is available for just £4.25 or £9.75 if you order all three, a saving of more than 20 per cent.

Picasso's evocative Still Life with Pitcher and Apples reflects a nostalgia for a classical past and represents a sensuous portrait of his wife, Marie Thérèse.

Max Beckmann's striking Still Life with Fallen Candles echoes the classic still life motif of momento mori, a reminder of the transience of earthly life.

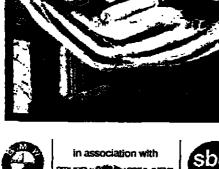
Carlo Carrà's Still Life with Triangle illustrates a yearning for timeless order, an idealised spiritual vision, in which traditional still life objects are revealed through modern eyes.

RIGHT: Max Beckman Candles (1929

CENTRE: Pablo Picasso Apples (1919) Picasso/DACS 1997

FAR RIGHT: Carlo Carri Still Life with Triangle (1917) ODACS 199









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CHANGING TIMES



#### **AROUND THE WORLD** A WEEKEND GUIDE

#### JILL CRAWSHAW'S TRAVEL TIPS Secret life of a sardine

THE history of sardines is explained in the Musée Imagi-naire de la Sardine at Sète in southern France. The museum houses about 1,000 empty sardine tins and offers riveting facts about the history of the humble fish. Christopher Columbus, it seems, left the Old World with 650 barrels of them on board the Santa Maria, and the expression "packed like sardines" is derived

from this type of storage.

The sardine tin was invented in 1820 (by a Frenchman); it had to be opened with a hammer and chisel - the key opener came 50 years later. Visitors can climb into a tin to experience the perspective of the cramped fish and, of course, enjoy a degustation. Museum admission costs Fr10; closed Mondays (0033 4 67 74 91 75).

#### On the map

The state of the s

WHAT are Niska Banja, Sokobanja and Vrnjacka Banja, Gal-ena and Fujairah? They were among the "new" holiday destinations that were being promoted by hopeful tourist boards and tour operators at London's World Travel Market last week. The first three are spa towns in Serbia. So far the only tour operator to Serbia is Thomson Holidays, which offers skiing in Kopaonik from £195 for a week's self-catering.

Historic (for America) Galena is being promoted by the state of Illinois. Other attractions include the world's only McDonald's

museum in Des Plaines, and the production of more sweets than anywhere else in the US — Illinois is home to Brach's Candies, the Blackhawk Chocolate Trail and Tootsie Roll Industries.

Fujairah in the United Arab Emirates retains more traditional Arabic character than its booming neighbour Dubai. The tiny emirate has huge sandy beaches. excellent diving and a landscape that ranges from mountains dotted with ancient forts to hidden wadis and lush gardens.

You may doubt whether these places will succeed on the tourist map. Well, look what you can do with a mosquito-ridden swamp in central Florida.

#### Breathe easy



THE Penang Mutiara Beach Resort in Malaysia is offering free accommodation to guests staying in the hotel at any time when the Air Pollutant Index (API)

passes the critical 100 level. There has been a great deal of publicity about high levels of air pollution in Malaysia," said Peter Gibbons, the resort's general manager. "Certainly we've had our problems. But since early October the API level has been well below the 100 level, and visibility over 10 kilometres. So we're putting our pockets where our mouths are, and offering this unconditional refund to highlight the greatly improved conditions in our area."

A double room at the Mutiara

Beach Resort (00604 8852828) costs

AFRICA

about £44 per night.

Net working: fishermen in Fujairah in the United Arab Emirates

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another wanted repayment for treatment he had received in an under water for five years. A particularly enterprising gourmet demanded £1,600 for Heathrow and home": he dropped the claim when asked for a receipt.

THE introduction of the shallowdraught MS Venezia for next year has enabled KD River Cruises (01372 742033) to offer holidaymakers an unusual and romantic glimpse of the intricate waterways, canals and lagoons of the Po

On an eight-day trip from Venice to Lombardy or vice-versa,

TAILORMADE

SAFARIS

#### Mystic history

THE New England port of Mystic, Connecticut, is bracing itself for a tourist invasion after the December release of Steven Spielberg's Amistad. The Amistad episode is a notorious part of Connecticut history. In 1839, 53 people were kidnapped from their west African homes, forced aboard the schooner Amistad and borne off as slaves to a sugar plantation in Cuba. The Africans took over the ship and tried to sail back home. When this failed they were taken into custody in New London, stood trial in New Haven and later in Hartford. It was here that former US President John Quincy Adams successfully argued on their behalf in what is often cited as the first civil rights case decided by the

Supreme Court. A reproduction schooner Amistad is to be built "to teach lessons of history, co-operation and leadership at Mystic Seaport, America's leading maritime museum which houses the world's largest collection of boats and maritime photographs. More information from Discover New England (01732 742777).

TRAVEL insurance costs 10 per cent more than it should because of false claims, according to Home & Overseas, which processes 147,000 claims by British holidaymakers each year. The company gives the example of a man who claimed for the cost of an appendectomy ... 17 times. A significant number of claims

are patently phoney: one careless traveller reckoned to have lost 33 suitcases over three years, while Indian village - which had been iranian caviare "stolen between

#### In the Po delta

AFRICA



Lights, camera, action: on location in Mystic, Connecticut, for Steven Spielberg's film. Amistad, which goes on release next month

the 120-passenger ship stops off at Murano and Burano. Chioegia. Verona, Ferrara and Cremona, with optional visits to see the Donatello reliefs in the basilica of St Anthony in Padua and to Mantua and Parma.

Unlike large modern cruise liners which have to berth at the ugly back door of Venice, MS Venezia gets pride of place among the gondolas near St Mark's Square on her two-night stop-over in La Serenissima.

Starting in March, the holiday costs £1,195-£1,425, which includes flights and full board.

FIND OUT more about stinkhorns, slime mould and puff balls by joining a Foraging for Fungi tour in Lithuania next summer,

organised by the Field Studies Council (01743 850522). The MAGIC of the Orient (01293 environmental charity is running 42 holiday courses for serious

FRANCE

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naturalists — the ten-day Lithuanian tour costs £1,300 which includes flights and full board. An II-day Flowers in the Landscape tour to Cyprus in April. accompanied by an expert botanist, costs £1,030. Other general interest holidays are aimed at environmental enthusiasts and include

Romania's Carpathian mountains where you will find castles and monasteries. volcanoes, salt mountains, magnificent geological highlights, wildflowers and wildlife, even glimpses of bears and wolves. This 13-day tour in June costs £1,380.

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#### Klong holiday

537700) is offering the chance to experience life in Bangkok's "klongs", the network of canals which lie across the Chao Phraya River from the main city sprawl. Guests stay in the wooden Thai House on a family farm among mango trees and coconut palms. eating home-cooked food bought at markets and exploring the klongs by boat. Visits include a trip to the Royal Barge Museum. the Thai Massage School at Wat Po, and an orchid farm. A two-day (one-night) stay costs £158 or can

be combined with other Thai

holidays. Four nights full-board at

the Thai House and seven nights

(room only) in Phuket cost £585. including flights.

THE rash of all-inclusive holidays is spreading to the Black Sea coast. Balkan Holidays (0171-543 5566) is offering the first in Bulgaria, at the Elenite Holiday Village situated eight miles north of Sunny Beach, the country's largest resort. The village is on a hillside above a shingle beach. with watersports, ice-creams. afternoon teas, racia (the fiery local plum brandy), beer and Bulgarian wine all part of the package. Gastronomy is rarely a highlight in Bulgaria, and the three-meal-a-day buffet service. seemingly inevitable with allinclusive holidays, is unlikely to improve the quality of the food. Prices are from £349-£469 a week. £493-£669 for two weeks.

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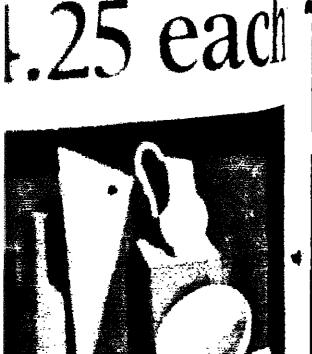
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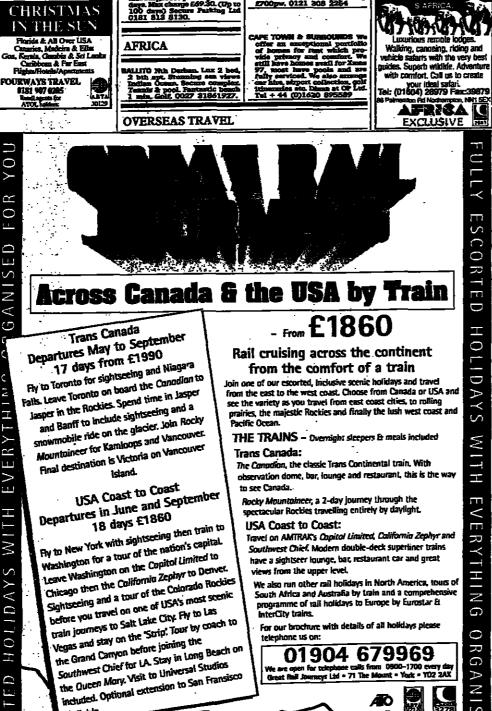
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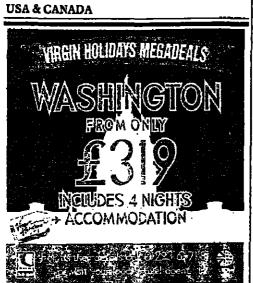
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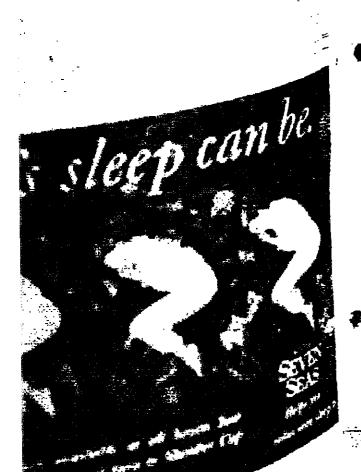
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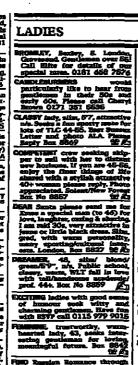
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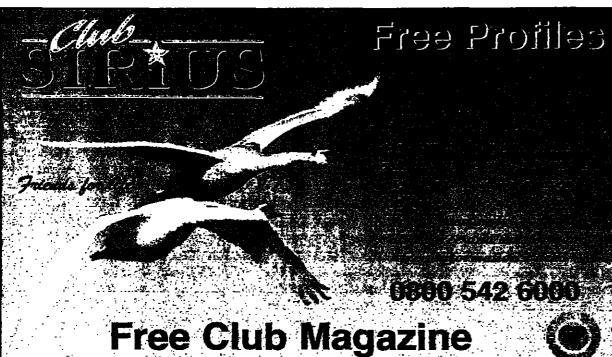


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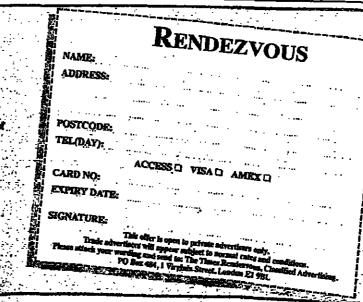
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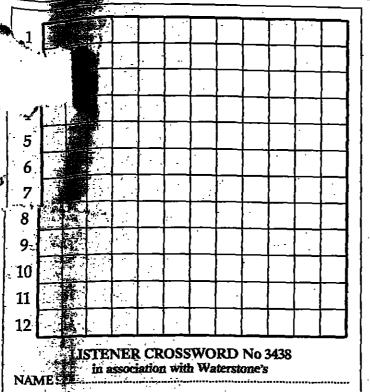
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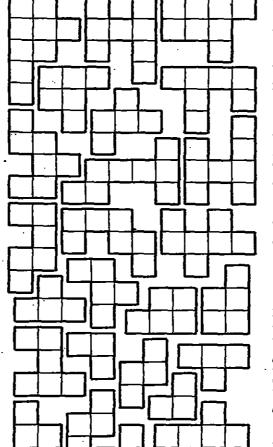
Cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above to The Listener Crossword No 3438, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE, by Thursday, December 11.

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The winner will receive a Waterstone's book token worth £75. Five runners-up will each receive a book token worth £10

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THE jigsaw clues, given in alphabetical order of their answers, lack an appropriate definition. The jigsaw pieces alongside are laid out face down, so the letters cannot be seen; they must be turned over and placed correctly on the geni, and the jigsaw pottern delineated. As with many a jigsaw puzzle, however, there is one wrong piece, which fits but in fact comes from another puzzle; solvers should highlight it. The further clues are normal and should assist in the correct placement of the jigsaw pieces; the two answers of each pair exactly occupy the appropriate row, with either answer first. exactly occupy the appropriate row, with either answer first.

Chambers (1993) is recommended. One simple echoic word may be found in the OED, but is straightforwardly clued.

CLUES Curse Germany ● A gypsy girl's name ● Leaders of ultra-left arrested by the Indian authorities ● Half finished attack left arrested by the Indian authorities • Half finished attack.

• Meet and pass round? • Ecstasy — least on butter • 50% of prostitutes call on the phone • A sign in iron • Travel up north, employed by Morgan Grenfell • Mercenary chap • Crimese people had possession • Crucial vacancy in band • The power of a British pint? • Parking these days in one's own home • Criticize the Spanish harshly • Quarrel in Portuguese • Goodwife changing sides • The epitaph of a disreputable person? • Self-catering to start here • Verity has to go to bed on time • People of fashion living in Kent? • Society has very linle power • A corded cloth in brown • Order pint here • Grunt in labour

FURTHER CLUES Catch business associate leaving Russia and heading west
 Falstaff's friend knocked back the whole drink. 2. Highly radioactive — stop there — leave here! ● Blustery promenade — very welcoming! 3. Some newfangled point ● What a baske! Let him take one of the Scurellaria. 4. Travelling by Tube, you'll find confusion about recurrent gap • Constable's Leaping Horse is executed by river. 5. A small sheep status status of Porse is executed by river. S. A small sneep farmer could be self-important • A dummy teat — well, one of two. 6. A member of Gadus (pollack): angle for the sake of protein • Will girl play Hamler? 7. "O mighty-mouth'd..." a classic pastiche lacking the pith of Tennysonism • Institute — British one's no good • 8 Christ-child not esoteric here? • 1 process a soft signal with resistance, electromotive force, and automate a blattic of Bonizmenia. ourrent. 9. Native of Banjarmasin. Borneo • In outskirts of Krenenchug. Ukraine, one may discover burial mound 10. The return of Rod Laver • Poorly administered, Insing millions, see this island perhaps 11. Airy? Of lungs, peculiarly • To associate with girls — London ones? 12. American withdrawing monkeys to bet heavily • A little ping on a set of bells

BRIDGE by Robert Sheehan

TODAY I conclude my review of

oridge software. Bridge Master: Aimed at everyone from novice to expert, this is a well produced and technically faultless rogram from top Canadian player Fred Gitelman. It presents declarer play problems and rearranges the opponents' cards so your line of play will always fail, unless you select the best line.

£49.95 (Windows 3.1 or 95, DOS) Counting at Bridge: From the former Dallas Ace player and fine writer Mike Lawrence, this excelient program for beginner to advanced player presents questions on the theme of counting the opponents points and cards, helping you to make the necessary deductions for the best line of play. £34.95 (Windows 3.1 or 95). Both of the above from Bridge Plus

(0118<del>-935</del> 1052). Bridge on the Internet: There are a few companies that provide on-line bridge 24 hours a day.

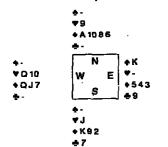
The two most established are ww.bridgeplayer.com (\$79 a year) and www.okbridge.com (\$99 a year), the latter boasting more than 10,000 members. Both offer a free month's trial. To play bridge live you need a computer, a modem, an Internet provider and a subscription to one of the services. Then you pay only for local phone calls to connect you to the provider.

This hand was played by Andy Bowles in London, partnering Marty Seligman, president of the American Psychological Association, in Philadelphia, via OKbridge:

+A1086 ÷53 N +K7542 **♥**01042 ₹8 +543 +QJ7 S **⊕**QJ10 ęAQ9 ¥AJ7 **♦** K 9 2 **⊕**K754 Contract: Four Hearts by South Opening lead: queen of clubs

VK9653

South played in Four Hearts after a transfer sequence. East won the club lead and switched to spades. South winning the queen. King and another heart exposed the bad break. South took the ace, cashed the king of clubs, ruffed a club and after the ace of spades and a spade ruff reached this position:



Declarer exited with his last trump. end-playing West to open up the dia-monds. When West led the queen. Bowles guessed well to win in hand and finesse the ten on the way back.

#### SETWEVOWESSES "APEPSIAA"APPLES MHR"STEELIER"EAS F O R E B Y F B I C Y C L E O R I G O U L O S I S T O N R S T A R R E O V A L O R T DESCENTKALENDS THERIVERTHAMES STYEDGSIRENS RS PEEL AROSEN OYES A ILATOLL GRUNTS CGRWATVONUSUIS "I L E U S T A L C B U R R O NOVAEOTHENVEER

GOBETWEENEVASRC

Solution to No 3435: Contributions by Blank

The thernatic vertical lights are all tributaries of the River Thames in London (Stamford and Beverley Brooks, the River Wandle, the Westbourne, the Tyburn, the River Fleet, the Walbrook, the Neckinger, the Ravensbourne, the River Lea, and Beckton and Crossness sewage treatment works). The quotation is "with pomp of waters unwithstood unto the ocean" (S. Daniel).

The winner is J.D. Brown, of Shepton Mallet, Somerset. The runners-up are Malcolm Kennedy of Seaford, Sussex, H. Lawson of Edinburgh, Scotland; Keith Witfield of Moscow, Russian Federation; Brenda. J. Widger of Altrincham, Cheshire; Mrs A.J. Bancroft of Lambley, Carlisle.

COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

#### WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 32 GRANGOUSIER

(b) One who will swallow anything. From the French grand goster "big throat". The proper name of a character in Rabelais. George Meredith, Richmond, 1871: "Our grangousier public."

GORBELLY (a) A protuberant belly, a garment with a loose belly. A person with a big pot. There are Nordic cognates. "Falstaff, reproaching the Londoners with their gorbellies."

(a) To swallow greedily. An echoic word imitating the sound of the action. Cf. gulp. Swedish dialect glapa to gulp down. BALDEŘĎASH

(b) Froth or frothy liquid. A jumbled and distasteful mixture of liquors, eg of milk and beer, beer and wine, brandy and mineral waters. Ben Jonson, New Inn, 1629: "Beer or butter-milk, mingled together. It is against my freehold to drink such balderdash."

#### **CHESS**

#### by Raymond Keene

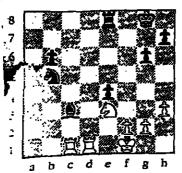
GIVEN that the number of possipf 40, for practical purposes virtually limitless, some remarkable coincidences have arisen. It is not unknown for the same game to: have been played twice, and there is even one notorious case where the Dutch grandmaster Donner though surviving one move fewer

the second time. The power of coincidence came home to me while I was examining Reti's win as White against Capablanca from New York 1924 (see this column. November 1). If Reti had wagered before the start of the New York tournament that he would defeat both José Capablanca and Alexander Alekhine in 31 moves each and playing the same Winning Move, causing resignation, in both cases, he would have had many takers. But that is exactly what transpired. Given infallible foresight. Reti could have



Here White played 31 Rid5 and Black resigned. He faces ruinous loss of material. Then, against Alekhine, Reti (White again) played

abcdefgh

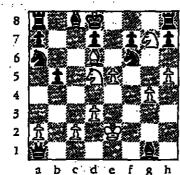


31 Rd5 and Alekhine, too, resigned. bilities in chess is ten to the power Already the exchange in arrears, he cannot escape disastrous losses.

KELLENNAN 💝 🕏 🖘

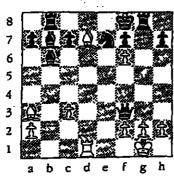
The power of coincidence was also evident in the final strike of two of the most famous games of chess ever played, respectively named the Immortal Game and the Evergreen Game. In both cases celebrated German grandmaster Adolf Anderssen delivered the same death blow 21 Be7 on the same move.

Immortal Game In the Anderssen played White at London 1851 against Kieseritsky.



Here Anderssen played Be7 mate.

And for the repeat performance: the Evergreen Game was played later in the 1850s against Dufresne.



Again Be? mate. Truth is stranger than fiction. The most prestigious tournament in the UK, the Hastings Premier, starts next month. Among the competitors will be grandmaster John Nunn. last year's winner, and teenage prodigy Luke McShane. Spectators are welcome. For further information call 01-124 442500.

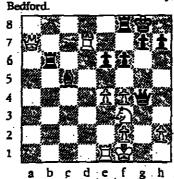
#### WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene Vhite to play. This position is rom the game Speelman - Short, andon 1980.

ute has a powerful concentraof force along the seventh but must be careful as his ing is exposed. How did he find an effective way to ne attack and defence?

your answer on a post-The Times, 1 Pennington ondon El 9XN. The first swer drawn on Thursvin a year's subscription taunton Society. The vill be published next

Last week's solution: 1... Qxh4+ (2 Kxh4 Rh8+; 3 Kg5 Rh5 mate) Last week's winner: R Wesley,

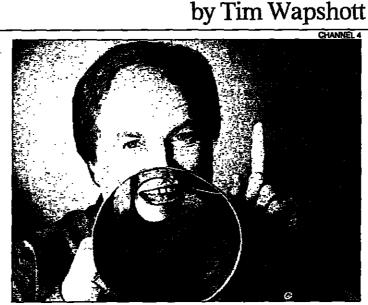


EVER SINCE Clive Anderson's acerbic tongue prompted the touchy Bee Gees to walk out during his show, he has been hailed a hero by many. The interviewer turned interviewee for the launch of Oil, a new BBC Web site.

Anderson was one of the first to allow himself to be probed by an he realised Barry Gibb was gening increasingly angry, Anderson replied: "I must admit I wasn't picking up the vibes in the Bee Gees interview — perhaps I should have done. They seemed to be laughing, so was I, so was the audience. When Barry got up to go, we all thought at first he was only joking. When he kept going it was obvious, even to me, that the interview wasn't going as well as I'd thought it had been."

Elvis Costello, who was also in the studio at the time. "tried to smooth things over". Anderson did nor speak to the Bee Gees after the show, instead they swept them-selves off to catch their flight back to America, apparently as origin-ally planned. "When it comes down to it, I either misjudged it or they had a sense of humour failure," concluded Anderson.

Others who have already been



All talk: Clive Anderson launches Oi! on the Internet for the BBC

interviewed on Oi! include the half Thierry Lacroix, who are struggling Casio keyboard player John Shuttleworth, aka Graham Fellows, and Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy author Douglas Adams. Due to appear live in cyberspace in the next few weeks are former Monty Python star and now accidental tourist, Michael Palin, and Harlequin's French fly-

provisionally booked for December 3 and 10 respectively.

Interviews tend to be around Ipm but check the site for further details. Transcripts of earlier sessions can also be called up. In another Oi! zone you can join chat forums to debate, praise or ridicule Auntie's output. You can also cast

votes, without paying premium phone rates for the privilege. MONDAY is World Aids Day and

as well as celebrities popping up around the country to help raise awareness and funds, Direct Connection is doing its bit. The Internet service-provider already helps the its Web site on the Internet (http://www.tht.org.uk) but now it is also pledging donations to the charity. For every new customer who mentions the trust when signing up, Direct Connection will donate £10 to the trust every year that the account is held. For more information call Direct Connection (0800 072 0000).

THIS is the last call for Cyberspace Thirty-Eight, which closes on Wednesday. Top prizes are two pairs of silver vouchers for on-track experience at the Brands Hatch race circuit, courtesy of Codemasters' TOCA Touring Car Championship

The silver package offers a visit to the Nigel Mansell Racing School at Brands Hatch, with a classroom briefing and then driving laps in the BMW 318, a single-seater racing car.

Cyberspace Thirty-Eight is open to anyone with a current driving licence. To enter you must create an outline or short script for an imaginary television advertising campaign for a Skoda sports car. Your treatment should cover no more than one side of A4 paper. Send your entry with your name, age space Thirty-Eight, Computer Games and Pastimes, Weekend. The Times, I Pennington Street. London El 9XN. You may also e-mail entries to cyber@dircon. co.uk. The two winners, plus six runners-up, will also win PC copies of Codemaster's TOCA Touring Car Championship.

> **TWO BRAINS ANSWERS**

Question 2: E: The initial letters of One to

#### **NEW SOFTWARE**

IN AMERICA. Dilbert the cartoonstrip character is a god, and it is easy to see why. There is something cool about this doughnut-munching, work-avoiding clerk which is instantly appealing. Ditbert's Desktop Games, moreover, are a

This stuff and nonsense is a glorified screensaver which is guaranteed to take the drudgery out of office life in the days leading up to Christmas - if not the new year, too. From Dreamworks Interactive, the Windows programme loads completely on to the hard disk and springs into action whenever the computer is left idle for too long.

Designed to "motivate your funnybone", the programme offers ten mindless games to tackle as well as activities to crank, such as a Jargonator, which extends simple memos into intangible bureaucratic triumphs. Most games have the same

theme: avoiding work. Project Pass-Off requires you to deflect dodgy projects away from Dilbert while pushing the decent ones towards him. In Techno-Raiders you lead Dilbert ever upward through the office floors, grabbing doughnuts and zapping co-workers

These are simple but addictive trinkets. There is also a boss key to return your screen to work mode at a single stroke should an employer

Verdict: 9 out of 10. Madean fun on the desktop with Dilbert and chums. £19.99.

WHICH southwestern state has led the United States in conner production since the early 1900s? Arizona.



Dilbert scores nine out of ten

Would you believe that most of Hawaii's famous beaches are man-The Grand Canyon, the Painted

Desert and Canyonlands National Park are all part of a plateau region that has the same name as which state? Colorado. National Geographic's GeoBee

Challenge is an American import intended for players aged ten and above. Of the 2,000 questions posed, unfortunately many are too taxing for most ten or 11-year-olds. There has been no attempt to localise the product for a British audience, and the question database is noticeably biased towards North America.

Worse still is the style of the quiz a blatant rip-off of the winning i Don't Know Jack formula. Hosted by two characters, an irritating bee who pops into the picture from time to time, and an unseen questionmaster, players buzz in to take cracks at the questions. GeoBee Challenge, on dual format CD-Rom for PC and Mac, is not only hugely unoriginal but it is poorly executed and extremely dreary to

Verdict: 3 out of 10. Second-rate copycat quiz. £19.99.

From page 36

Question 1: 142857 x 3 = 428571

Eight

#### **SOLUTION TO JUMBO CROSSWORD 136**

BI I G B R O T HE R I I S W A T C H I N G Y O U DOGCOLLAR 0 COHABIT PILECEDERE MINUTE TIWEED LEDUM AND TWEED

The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, is Torn Whitelaw, of Bearsden in Scotland

RELEASE THE MOONHOUNDS

#### MODERN MANNERS by John Morgan

end your queries to Morgan's Modern Manners, The Times, Weekend, l Pennington Street, London El 9XN

I have just got married and I am now in the process of advising various institutions of my change of name. However, I wish to keep my maiden name but add my husband's name after it. Can you please advise whether there should be a hyphen in between? — H.J. Beckingham-(?)

Anybody in Britain can choose to double-barrel their name. However, such a casual arrangement, although adequate in the eyes of the law, is often inadequate for modern bureaucracy and for many people lacks the psychological stamp of institutional approval. A more formal status can be achieved by combining husband's and wife's surname either by Deed Poll through a solicitor, or in the case of changing a name for reasons such as property interests or reasons of genealogy, by applying for a Royal Licence via the College of Arms to HM the Queen. Hyphens (al-

1 🏓

though increasingly unfashionable) are helpful, as they make it clear that a multiple name is indeed a surname, not a succession of first names.

Can it ever be right to wear brown shoes with a grey suit? - DS Rutter Poole, Dorset

A Yes it can, but only when the cloth has a distinctly flannelly or tweedy appearance.

Could you please advise me on how to eat a small roasted bird, eg partridge, snipe or woodcock, at a formal dinner party. Is it permissible to chew the bones in your fingers? If not, could you advise me of the polite, but at the same time the best way, to get the maximum meat out of your bird. Baily, Bognor

The simple guide rests on the presence of finger bowls. If these are on the host's table, then bone-chewing is acceptable. If not, the bird is best attacked only with a knife or fork. As far as getting the maximum meat from it, the secret lies in first cutting with the knife directed towards the bone as when carving and secondly, that the host has ensured that the bird has been properly hung and expertly cooked.

When hosting a guest sleep-ing in the spare bedroom, is it considered bad manners to launder the bedelothes on the day of the guest's departure before Hibberd, Harston, Cambridge

It rather defeats the object of A It rather octeans the baseline hospitality to spend a weekend making people feel welcome, only to make it appear as if they are being bundled out at the end. Throughout a guest's stay their room is their territory, and there-

ALFRED DUNHILL

fore laundering the bedelothes before they have left does suggest a little undue haste.

Correspondence and invitations, as I understood. should be sent on cards with rounded corners, and cards with squared corners are reserved for tickets. I notice increasingly that correspondence and invitations are sent on squared-cornered cards. Am I being old-fashioned in thinking etiquette has changed? - Tudor Jones, Mold, Flints

Nowadays square corners are correct form and are considered more elegant than round ones. This applies not just for tickets, but for invitation cards, correspondence cards, change of address notifications, birth announcements and indeed all stationery. Place cards that fit into little stands are the only exception: these can still have rounded edges.

If one passes a stranger in If one passes a summer the street and likes the scent he or she is wearing. how can a polite en-

quiry be made as to the brand and supplier? — J P Smith. Stonehouse, Plymouth. At one time mak-ing personal comments was considered crass and vulgar, but nowadays such attention is considered more socially acceptable. However, a light

touch is required, and

any observation or en-

quiry should always take the form of a delighted and spontaneous compliment. An ex-ample could be: "I hope you don't mind me saying, but I just love the scent you are wearing." Whether the response is a beatific smile or a punch in the face is an occupational hazard you can ascertain only in individual situations.

I shall be grateful if you can comment on three features of current English language us-age that mildly irritate and sometimes profoundly exasperate me. They are: I) The pronunciation of "H" as "Haitch": 2) The pronunciation of "says" (sez) as "sayze"; 3) The substitution of "do you have?" for "have you got?" My disgust concerning 3) reached a pinnacle a few days ago when a film on television contained the lines: We've got a servant problem in this house — no good saying we don't." Can you explain these - Patrick Palmer,

The guilty party is Estuary English, a patois once resuncted to regions bo Thames estuary, but which is now increasingly widespread. Alarmists fear that within a few decades it will have completely eclipsed Received Pronunciation as the standard way to speak. Let's hope they

John Morgan is Associate Editor of GQ



WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

GRANGOUSIER

b. A swallower

c. An overcloak

a. A big paunch

b. An exclamation

a. To swallow greedily

a. A race up a mountain

b. An adopted child

c. A swallow's nest

BALDERDASH

b. A mixed drink

c. A Nordic diacritic

**GORBELLY** 

a. A type of foie gras goose

c. A turret with machicolation

#### TWO BRAINS

Question 1: What numbers can replace these ABCDEF x 3 = BCDEFA

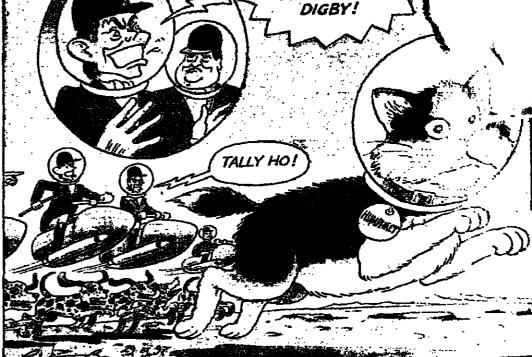
Opestion 2: Which letter is next in this series?

Answers on page 35.

RAYMOND KEENE | planner spoils country house

IN 1923 the psychometrician C.M. Cox estimated the greatest historical IQs in his Genetic Studies of Genius. His conclusions were as follows: 1. Goethe (210); 2. Leibnitz (205); 3-4. Newton and Pitt the Younger (both 190); 5. Galileo (185). Notable omissions from his list were Da Vinci, Shakespeare and Einstein, who have variously been estimated as, respectively, 220, 210 and

**OTTFFSS** 



#### **CROSS** WORDS by Brian Greer

(but only if they can be function-

ally justified), as in Book made

from stiff paper (4.5). Note that if

"from" is used as a link, the

structure should be whole from

nother of the antecedents of cryptic clues is the Acharade. This one is from

My first doth affliction denote Which my second was born to

My third is a sure antidote That affliction to soften and cure "My third" here refers to the

whole word). There are many aspects to writing a good charade clue. The components should dovetail syn-tactically and semantically and care is needed with the nuts and bolts. The minimal structure is

juxtaposition, with the definition

of the whole word at the begin-

ning or the end, as in: American

parts; conversely, if the link is "for", the structure should be parts for whole, while other words, such as "in", work in either direction (these remarks apply in general, not just to charade clues). Various phrases indicate the order of components. In particular, our convention is to use "on" to mean after in across clues and above in

down clues. One variation is when the parts can be related, as in Blues used in service (5.4). Another is

when the split word can be (8). Extra words may be inserted construed as a phrase: Frightening place to be scated in plane? (9). Other ingredients of crypticity, such as homophony. can be stirred in: Roughly treat German author and composer, say (9). Some words can be split into more than two parts, as in: Examine row of birds from Northern Europe (12) and Affeeted by blues record playing thus in the small hours (12). Answers to anagram clues from two weeks ago: FRANCOIS RABELAIS, DANTE GABRIEL ROSSETIT, WATER-SKI, ISLE OF MAN, WHEAT, TRANSIENT, METROPOLIS, REAPLEAR, The anagram of TALCUM POWDER should have been WORLD CUP TEAM — my apologies.

TWO

From the Good Book (8)

Clod breaker. Churchill its

nupil (6) No trouble yet (3.2.4)

2 Celtic priest (5)

Merciful (7)

18 Picture: idol (5)

Smell strongly (4)

Very close (5,2.4)

12 Not touching alcohol (8)

One getting even (7)

19 Georgian city, has Mar-

16 Less good, less well off (6)

#### PICTURE LINE



Answers on page 35

READERS are invited to suggest what Cherie Blair and Humphrey, pictured right, might be saying.

This picture, recently printed in The Times, will appear again next week with an entry chosen from those submitted.

on a postcard with your name and address to PictureLine, Weekend, The Times, I Pennington Street,

Send "speech bubble" suggestions

The Editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday. December 4

Last week's winning caption, left, was submitted by Richard E. Fay, of Crowborough, Sussex.

5 One good in a part sent up

outrageous opera (9)
6 Greeting called out during Proms
— odd kind of cult (7)

7 Sergeant perhaps intercepts soldier turning up without proper identification (5)
8 Writer's final denial of deceit, without claiming to be faithful (5.9)
9 Perfect cards come from me (5)

Lines expressing kind of humour found in Irish community (8)

found in Irish community (8)

11 Study Isles — Man perhaps? (5)

12 Coping with seasonal variations, having prepared for a freeze (11)

13 Church has girl offering Communion vessel (7)

14 Diplomacy involves English player's order to keep quiet (5)

21 Greek's plain to be seen in US state capital (7)

23 Uneasy, holding a gee-gee that's poorly groomed (6)

24 Master's put out, having to follow them (7.6)

25 Stretch of river occupied by

25 Stretch of river occupied by vessels (7)

26 The Washington Post may keep up this standard (3,4-8,6)

28 Secret's out — one was carrying an old torch! (7)
30 Invite new talent — it's bound to

turn up (13)
32 Urgent item breaking? Press, TV
etc. called in (9)

33 Try university parties — they once shielded gatecrashers (8)

shielded gatecrashers (8)
35 Assesses a vault seen, ignoring last tumble (9)
37 Knight with firm set up on Greek island winds up elsewhere (8)
41 At first viewing, likely venue is discussed (2,5)
42 Offered tender inducement, not taking account of the price one may have to pay (14)
44 One laweiver has to

44 One lawgiver has to accommodate politician's initial demands (7)

46 No terribly short letter? Yes it is!

(1)
47 Navigator's instrument, old, cannot keep time (6)
49 Acting casually — no new risk seen round US city (11)

56 Be very sorry to lose power, then rave, coming back in (2-7)

59 Weapon currently being restricted caused anger in rural establishment (7)

61 Burmese city finally ahandoned religious symbol (7)

Hint at struggles, having to lash out right and left (7)

64 Set up a record, with urgent appeal for cash abroad (5)
65 Set of principles held by Elizabeth 1 conscientiously (5)

66 Come again about snappy dog (5) 67 Keep holding line — take 50% of

68 Governor offering guidance for one wishing to go straight (5)

the division (5)

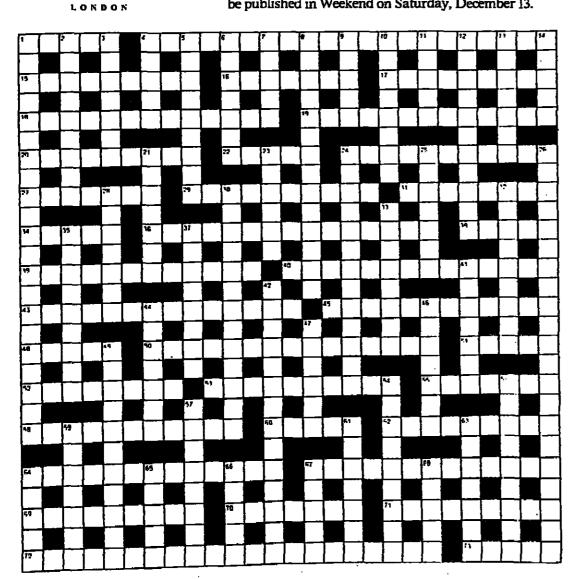
57 Huge company deficit — everything in short supply (8)

54 Rex feit urge to reform — presumably being this? (9)



#### JUMBO CROSSWORD 138

The prize for the first correct solution to be opened will be an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, the world's first interchangeable, capless rollerball/ballpoint pen. Streamlined and made from black resin with a gold-plated clip. it has perfect writing balance. Entries should be sent to: Jumbo Crossword 138. The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN to arrive by Monday, December 8. The name of the winner will be published in Weekend on Saturday, December 13.



7	72 Composer and romantic poet with names listed slightly out of order
NAME	(6, <del>9-6</del> )
ADDRESS	73 One supervising tour goes astray after road junction (5)
	OOWN 1 This engineer left things

POSTCODE

Briefly, where addition's implied, "minus" is wrong! (2.3)

4 Saw the disastrous outcome of

4 Saw the disastrous outcome of Tom's prying (9,6,3,3)
15 Ordering a piece of jewellery, having phoned in (9)
16 Imagine tribesman having remedy to get rid of cold (7)
17 From this point of view, one may look down on the French and look down on the French and Italians (4,5)

Italians (4.5)

18 Retracting one's opinions, suggesting recycling in two stages (4-9)

19 Is fan's letter unusual, keeping right emotions in check? (4-9)

20 Edward has rings run round him in disorderly retreat — totally destroyed (6.3)

22 African mum's excellent (5)

22 African mum's excellent (5)

22 African mum's excellent (5)
24 One working under cover,
surprisingly centre-stage (6,5)
27 King getting prickly about Society
being tasteless (7)
29 Like a powerful clique round a
girl, exceptionally fashionable (10)
31 Make the most of positive change
— number increasing 200-fold (8)
34 Member of family participating in
Brownie ceremony (5)
36 Extinct bird's fare — farm animal,
and wild one (9-6)
38 Series of notes made from back

38 Series of notes made from back issue of union periodical (5)

39 Data I refused to process, referring to apples of dubious origin (4,3,5)

origin (4.3.5)

40 Steps taken with section of wreckage, having instruction to find this? (4-8)

43 With their high-level connections, they may be snowed under (8.6)

45 Contribution to a book which has a redeeming feature (7-5)

48 Found in desert - a new variety of palm (5)
50 Candidate placed second in Latin

51 Energy running short troubled environmentalist (5)

52 One boy turned head, prying into another's affairs (8) 53 Striker on the box perhaps sheds light on this criminal's activity (4-6) 55 Side's not on time? Then test's not

starting! (7) 58 Long sentence beginning a man's right-wing biography (4.7) 60 Almost be converted, going back to "The Art of Jazz" (5

with gas (9) 64 Two pairs of sides coming across each other, but determined not to meet (13)

62 Northern town may be heated

free (13)
67 Sporting occasion that could be elegant and hearty (6,7)
69 Checks supply of French art that can be trusted first (9) 70 Animal seen next to mountain ash originally, or another tree (7)

71 Wand, perhaps, producing transient light (5.4)
72 Composer and romantic poet with names listed slightly out of order (6.9-6)

l This engineer left things shipshape and Bristol lashion, and kept on the rails (8.7.6)

#### 2 Removed fat, including wrinkle (6.3) 3 Fellow catches chill in Eucharistic SSWORD vestment (7) 4 Youngster rebuked when boxing in learner driver (5)

S

No 1264 **DOWN** 

ACROSS 1 Corporate group (4) 3 James - Nocturne painter

8 Steward; dangerous ball (7) 10 Stolen property handler (5) 11 Eventually (2,3,6) 13 US state nearest Russia (6)

15 Liquid container, nerve (slang) (6) 17 Student of word origins (11)

20 Unruly gang behaviour (slang) (5) 21 Produce new version of

(next) (7) 22 Armorial science (8) 23 Powdered grain; food

served (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1263 ACROSS: 1 Strata 5 Mood 9 Refugee 10 Attain 11 Hercules 12 O'Casey 15 Warder 18 Claudius 20 Stigma 22 Dilemma 23 Guts 24 Ticket

DOWN: 2 Target 3 Affected 4 Angel 6 Oust 7 Devise 8 Reason 13 Academic 14 Arcade 16 Acting 17 Curity 19 Allot 21 Go/at

umvictsigns de guite SPOnse at deal of

effective...

THE BOOK Sit to tighten

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